Strong support for Israel

The CJN Jewish news

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Faith, humor and solidarity buoy Israelis

By
LEORA FRUCHT

Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM —

Ruth Jonah and Drew Tick spent their wedding night in a Jerusalem hotel room with 17 strangers, all wearing gas masks.

Minutes after the couple arrived at their suite, a slew of Iraqi missiles plunged into Israel, setting off a nationwide siren and sending the newlyweds, along with everyone else in the hotel, scurrying into a sealed, airtight room.

Only hours before, Ruth, a native of Hamilton, Ont., had seriously considered cancelling the Jan. 17 wedding. But in the end, the bride showed up at the chuppa with her gas mask slung over her shoulder and found that despite the auspicious timing of her marriage, nearly all the 200-plus guests, including a number from abroad, had shown up. It was, as one guest put it, a show of defiant joy.

In the Iraqi assault on Israel's homefront, it is the country's civilians who are proving to be the unsung heroes in this unique and terrifying war.

Whatever Israel's military response to the Iraqi threat, the country has already had to respond to what is possibly Saddam Hussein's most effective card to date: his psychological weaponry.

"He has turned us into involuntary players in a nationwide game of Russian roulette," said one Tel Avivian, who in an effort to tip his own odds, sought refuge with friends in Jerusalem following two straight nights of SCUD missile attacks on Tel Aviv.

"This is different from any war we have ever had," said Leah Amar, a mother of three who has witnessed all of Israel's wars. "It's the helplesness, the lack of control that is so frustrating. You feel like a sitting duck, not knowing when, where or how this invisible enemy is going to strike next."

To deal with the frustration, disbelief, shock and anger and most of all, the sheer terror of being the target of deadly missiles, Israelis have had to dig into their own arsenal of psychological weaponry.

Banding together is one of those weapons.

Two hours after the first missiles landed in Israel, and Israelis had been told to stay in their homes, near their sealed rooms, Ahuva and Shimshon Frucht of Petach Tikvah took to the road at three in the morning to visit their daughter, whose husband, a doctor, had been suddenly called away, leaving her alone with the children.

"I was certain we'd be the only nuts on the road," recalls Ahuva. "But the highway was filled. Everyone was going to stay with their children, their grandchildren, their parents. Many of them were bringing food. It was just like a holiday."

Likewise, in the spirit of Jewish holidays, people living alone were whisked under the wings of friends, neighbors and sometimes, even strangers. One elderly woman called an all-night radio program to voice her fear of being alone. Within a quarter-hour, she had received over 20 offers from families willing to host her.

The telephone was a powerful weapon in the Israeli arsenal. Before, during and after every alarm, the lines buzzed as friends and relatives called to alert and comfort each other.

[Cont'd. on page 7]

SCUD MISSILE VICTIM

An Israeli woman in tears stands outside her badly damaged home clutching her only two possesions left — a gas mask and some bread — following an Iraqi missile attack on Tel Aviv. [AP wirephoto]

Bright spots at The CJN

TORONTO —

Amid the chaos, frazzled nerves and heart-stopping reports of chemical and missile attacks against Israel, there were, at least at The CJN's Don Mills office, some bright spots last week.

Several callers to the newspaper, identifying themselves as non-Jews, said they were behind Israel in its hour of need, and voiced support for Jews in Canada.

"One lady called and said 'I'm not Jewish but I'm pleased at how Israel has reacted (to the bombing raids). I'm very proud of Jews here, and of Israel,' " reported a CJN receptionist.

Other callers said they were praying and fasting for Israel, and that "hundreds" of Christians would do the same.

They also praised Israel's restraint.

Apparently, similar calls were received at Jewish communal organizations in Toronto.

Killing civilians unacceptable: Abileah

Israel can retaliate: Levanon

Canadian Jews pack rallies in Montreal, Toronto

By
STEPHANIE CHAPMAN

TORONTO —

"I can assure you that Israel, as part of the world, will act in the interest of the entire free world," Israeli Consul-General Benjamin Abileah told an overflow crowd at Toronto's Beth Tzedec synagogue Sunday morning.

Abileah, who is consul-general for Ontario and Western Canada, thanked the attendees, estimated at 5,000 by synagogue officials, for their messages of support. But, he added, this support will not remove the danger and fear experienced by the Israeli people.

He said that the policy-makers in Israel have long known that Saddam Hussein would carry out his threats and preparations for the protection of Israelis had long been arranged.

"No one denies Israel's right of self-defence but we still hope we will not have to exercise that right.

"It's time the world told Hussein that the killing of innocent civilians is unacceptable. It is our duty to make him fail," Abileah said.

Abileah left the podium to a standing ovation and thunderous applause. Banners and Israeli flags were widely displayed in support of Israel. The audience chanted in Hebrew Am Yisroel Chai — the people of Israel live.

Julia Koschitzky, national president of the United Israel Appeal of Canada, thanked all the Toronto Jewish groups for their support in planning the rally on such short notice.

She then introduced the rabbi of Beth Tzedec, Benjamin Freidberg, who led the group in prayer. His primary message for the group was one of overwhelming support for both Israel and those Canadians who are serving in the Gulf.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL —

Israel reserves the right to retaliate against Iraq for its missile attacks and "will at a time and in a manner that fits Israel," Israeli Consul-General Itzhak Levanon told a solidarity rally attended, organizers said, by 5,000 persons at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim.

In an impassioned tone and to wild cheering, Levanon said Israel will not "turn the other cheek" nor be told how to behave by other countries. He expressed doubt the Arab states would leave the coalition if Israel reacted.

But Israel has decided at this stage that it does not want to enter a "full-scale war," a decision made only after full consideration of all the factors, especially the force with which the allies are combatting Iraq, he said.

He contended the Gulf war stems from an inter-Arab conflict with which Israel has no connection. Israel does not want to join the coalition nor did it want to launch a pre-emptive strike against Iraq.

Levanon castigated the Western countries that condemned Israel for bombing a nuclear reactor in Iraq in 1981 and for having armed Iraq in the past.

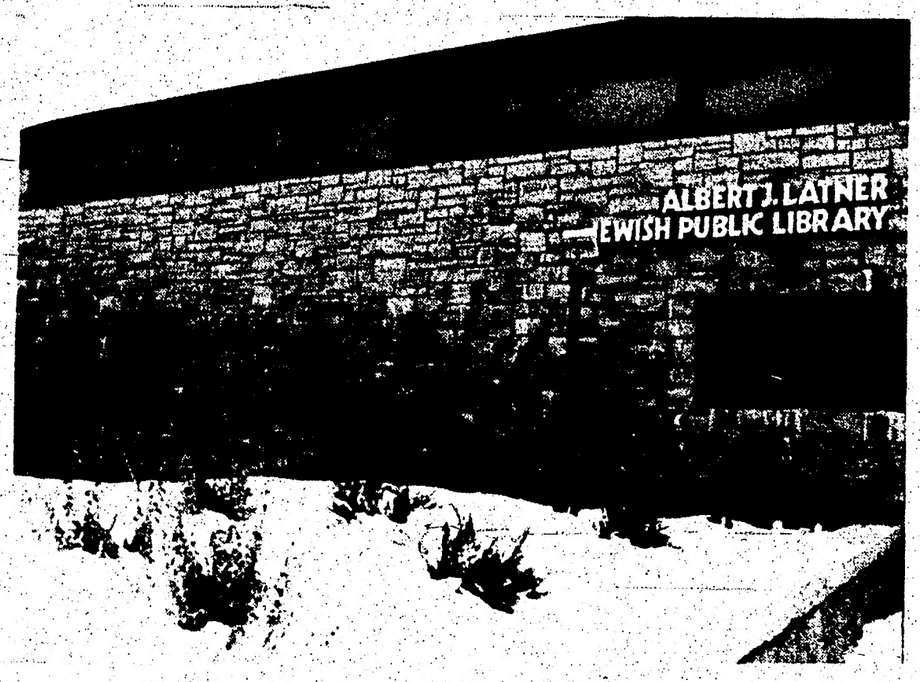
He also noted that the world turned a deaf ear to Israel's requests that the build-up of chemical and biological weapons in the Arab world be monitored and controlled.

The 2,000-seat sanctuary was filled, and an audio system was set up in other rooms of the synagogue so at least an equal number could hear. Outside, some 700 students waved Israeli flags and cheered as they were addressed by Rabbi Reuben Poupko of Beth Israel Beth Aaron Congregation. About 70 police officers and private

[Cont'd. on page 8]

More coverage of events in the Gulf on pages 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9

Canada



Some of the pro-Iraqi graffiti that appeared on Jewish community buildings last week. [Jay Brodbar-Nemzer photo]

Police increase security as shuls vandalized

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

Despite six episodes of anti-Semitic vandalism last week, all involving the spray-painting of pro-Iraqi and pro-PLO slogans, there is no heightened threat to Jewish community institutions in Toronto, says the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress.

Nevertheless, police have been asked to step up surveillance of Jewish communal buildings, synagogues and schools in Metro, and all Jewish facilities have beefed up their security.

Only hours after the first Iraqi missile raid on Tel Aviv, slogans such as PLO/Hussein - Israel No; Saddam was right, Israel was wrong; and Iraq PLO appeared on the Lipa Green building, Associated Hebrew School and four Metro-area synagogues: The Beth David, Pride of Israel and Temple Har Zion and B'nai Torah Congregation.

CJC has offered a $5,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of those responsible.

According to CJC's community relations director, Manuel Prutschi, the incidents "did not have their desired effect on the community.

"We're proceeding in an atmosphere of caution and we can't be ruled by an atmosphere of fear."

Congress, he said, believes the daubings to be the work of skinheads or other "racial extremists."

Only hours after U.S.-led forces began their bombing raids inside Iraq the night of Jan. 16, some 450 community leaders and professionals gathered at the Lipa Green building to be assured that the Jewish community faces no real increased threat because of hostilities in the Persian Gulf.

Nonetheless, "prudence dictates that Jewish institutions be very much on the alert," community relations committee chairman, David Satok, said.

The hastily-arranged meeting had been called prior to the beginning of hostilities, and it was held in an atmosphere of redoubled apprehension.

After checking with all levels of police, including Peel and York region forces, Congress has been assured that Metro's Jewish communal facilities are not facing any heightened threat, Satok said.

The threat by Iraq of terrorist acts in Western countries has led CJC to carry out its "standard security assessments," the same ones it does at High Holiday times, Satok said.

But at virtually all Toronto institutions — the Lipa Green building, schools, synagogues, JCCs and cemeteries — security has been visibly beefed up.

At the Lipa Green building, the city's nerve centre of Jewish services and organizations, a guard last week was checking all purses and bags, all professionals were issued photo ID cards and visitors were told to sign in and out.

At all three Jewish Community centres, access has been limited to main doors only, everyone using athletic facilities is being asked to sign in and out, and emergency evacuation drills are being studied anew, said JCC official Mark Charendoff.

Police officers and private security guards also patrol the buildings, Charendoff added.

At B'nai Brith Canada's national headquarters in Downsview, a full-time security guard is posted at the only unlocked entrance, and all staff have been issued photo ID cards.

As always in a situation like this, the biggest concern for community officials is schools.

Despite the added precautions, "we can't turn schools into armed camps," said Arthur Tannenbaum, director of Associated Hebrew Schools.

"Our aim is to be alert and aware. You don't want to create panic."

Tannenbaum said all staff are being asked to keep an eye out for suspicious persons and unattended parcels, while access is being limited to main entrances and exits.

Police have checked Associated's four campuses but there are no plans to close schools.

"It would be disastrous to close school. That's the worst thing you could do," Tannenbaum said.

A meeting of all principals, supervisors and executive directors of Jewish day and supplementary schools was called last Monday morning (Jan. 21) by the Board of Jewish Education to discuss stepped-up security.

BJE director Rabbi Irwin Witty, said the schools "should give strong consideration" to the recommendations arising from the meeting.

A letter sent to parents of children attending United Synagogue Day Schools (USDS) said the school is in touch with police, doors are being locked and more staff will be on recess duty.

At Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), only one access point is open once students are inside the building.

At the Menorah day care centre, parents last week had to show identification before being allowed to pick up children.

Rabbi Witty said some parents are keeping their children home from school, but "there is no indication we should be that concerned."

The role of Canada's spy agency, the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (CSIS), is not to counter threats of terror but to collect information on threats, CSIS official Gerry Cummings told The CJN.

Data on threats and terrorist groups are passed on to police forces, Cummings said.

He would not say whether there have been threats issued against Jewish communal facilities in Canada, or whether Jewish or Israel-based institutions have been advised to step up security.

In the wake of the rash of defacements, the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada called on all community institutions to step up security.

At the same time, Morley Wolfe, national community liaison chairman for the League, has contacted a representative from the Moslem community in Canada to offer support should Canadian of Arab descent be harassed.

Symbol of fresh, bright future

Israelis get ready to plant trees to mark special Tu b'Shevat

TORONTO —

Jews around the world will celebrate Tu b'Shevat Jan. 30 by planting trees in Israel under the auspices of the Jewish National Fund.

This year's annual festival is expected to be special. The tension and fear created by two Iraqi missile attacks will be forgotten, if only for a short time, when thousands of Israelis and thousands of new immigrants side by side plant trees.

The symbolism of new and old Israelis joining together in planting saplings all over the country is most appropriate. Trees symbolize roots, hope, strength, beauty and a fresh and bright future.

While it is not possible for all Canadian Jews to physically be present to plant trees in Israel, the Jewish National Fund of Canada makes it possible for the planting to be done in the name of Canadian donors. The JNF enables Canadians to buy trees here in Canada and arranges for planting to be done in Israel.

Tu b'Shevat expresses the Jewish people's love for the soil of the land of Israel. While we in Canada are still in the midst of snow and ice, in Israel the first signs of awakening spring are manifest.

Develop the land

Since the establishment of the State of Israel, this festival has taken on a deeper significance and fresh vitality. It has become linked with the need to develop the land and afforest the desert.

The Jewish National Fund of Canada carries out a number of programs across the country on Tu b'Shevat, with special emphasis on Jewish schools. JNF's education department distributes material and program suggestions to Hebrew teachers across the country for use in their classrooms.

Participation of Jewish children in the celebration of Tu b'Shevat has become a tradition. In the adult community, JNF initiates and sponsors a variety of activities which foster the sale of trees.

Tu b'Shevat 1991 is special for a number of reasons. The joy in the miraculous aliya of 200,000 Soviet Jews last year is tempered with the pain created by the Gulf War. The JNF says this year, more than most, Israelis require a sense of solidarity with Jews around the world. Jews now have the opportunity to say, loudly and clearly, "we are with you," through the symbolic planting of trees, as a statement of hope for a bright and secure future, a JNF press release says.

Telephone call

JNF offices around Canada are prepared to take orders for trees (at $9 each). You may contact JNF offices as follows:

Vancouver (604-266-4191); Edmonton (403-81-7881); Windsor (519-969-8733); Hamilton (416-527-5516); Toronto (416-638-7200); Montreal (514-934-0313); Calgary (403-279-4410); Winnipeg (204-947-0207); London (519-432-139); St. Catharines (416-685-0423 or 416-684-6367); Ottawa (613-230-9047); Halifax (902-422-7491).

Tu b'Shevat will mark the launching by JNF of *Project Promised Land*, the ongoing program of developing the land infrastructure at various points all over Israel, on which will be built new housing for new immigrants and young Israelis. At the moment, JNF is developing such infrastructure on which will be built 30,000 housing units.

It will take only a few moments to order a tree but will give each Canadian Jew an opportunity to meaningfully and personally take part in the ancient festival of Tu b'Shevat reborn in Israel, the JNF says.

Community rally held

Vancouver Jews praise Israel

By
MAURICE LUCOW

VANCOUVER —

More than 1,400 members of the Vancouver area Jewish community jammed all the space available in the Schara Tzedeck synagogue Sunday night to express their solidarity with the State of Israel and to praise the country for its restraint in not striking back at Iraq because of the missile attacks.

At the request of Dr. Michael Elterman, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific Region, which organized the meeting on short notice, members of the audience were given samples of a letter to send to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and External Affairs Minister Joe Clark expressing gratitude of the Jews of Canada for the strong support "you and the Parliament of Canada have expressed for Israel at this trying time."

The letter says Jews were "horrified" by the attacks and "we are comforted by the government's outspoken support."

The letter points out that Israel is not part of the Persian Gulf and for months has attempted to remain on the sidelines of the crisis. Iraq has no outstanding claims against Israel, "and yet Saddam Hussein has deep hatred in his heart — especially hatred for Israel."

The fact that retaliation by Israel could fracture the components of the coalition demonstrates the animosity of the Arab world against the Jewish state and "serves as a bitter reminder of the challenge faced by Israel for security and survival."

Prayers for peace, for Israel and for Canada were led by Rabbis Mordecai Feuerstein, Wilfred Solomon and Philip Bregman.

Delta MP Dr. Stan Wilby represented the federal government at the rally and spoke briefly, praising Israel's restraint. Messages were read from B.C. Premier Bill Vander Zalm, NDP leader Audrey McLaughlin, Liberal Party leader Jean Chretien and House of Commons Speaker John Fraser, who is a Vancouver MP.

Michael Harcourt, leader of the provincial NDP, was in attendance at the rally.

Ted Zacks, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, spoke briefly and said there had not been such a big attendance at a Jewish meeting since a rally held several years ago urging freedom for Soviet Jews. He said Israel has not requested additional funds because of the war but he stressed that pledges made to the recent Combined Jewish Appeal should be paid promptly so the funds allocated for Israel through the United Israel Appeal of Canada can be transmitted promptly.

Roni Levine, the shaliach for the Israel Aliyah office, said he has been in touch with friends in Israel and they are "confident and calm."

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Bert Raphael

Tory MP Boyer rejects linkage

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

Canada will not accept linkage of the Palestinian issue with the Iraq war, the parliamentary assistant to the Minister for External Affairs said here Jan. 18.

In an unequivocal statement of policy, Patrick Boyer, MP, said if there were no Palestinians and no problems in Lebanon the war being waged by the Allies against Iraq would still be fought.

"This war has nothing to do with the Palestinian issue," he said. "That is entirely a devil of Saddam Hussein's own making."

Boyer, the member for Etobicoke-Lakeshore, is parliamentary assistant to Minister Joe Clark.

He was speaking to a luncheon meeting at the Park Plaza Hotel of Canadian Lawyers and Jurists for Soviet Jewry.

Its chairman, Bert Raphael, said at the conclusion of Boyer's speech that the Canadian Jewish community would be reassured by Canada's opposition to linkage because there had been concern about Canada's stand.

Boyer surprised everyone when he stated that intelligence reports received by the Canadian government showed that four more missiles had been fired at Israel than mentioned in the news media. Two of these landed in Jordan, he said, and two were unaccounted for. "This seems to bear out reports about their lack of accuracy."

He said Hussein is prepared to attack and occupy Saudi Arabia and his actions over the past 10 years show he wants dictatorial powers over the whole Mideast. "Why else did he develop chemical and atomic weapons? It has nothing to do with the Palestinian issue."

Boyer said the Canadian government is rejecting linkage because if Hussein succeeded in getting the West Bank and Gaza on the table it would mean that many other equally difficult issues in the Middle East would also need resolving.

The attack on Israel by Iraqi missiles legitimately requires a response, he said, but he warned of its effect. "A response will bring about linkage because it will draw everything into the cauldron."

He went on: "Restraint is needed, tempered by a longer view of history. A retaliatory attack does not always follow immediately...the notebook is open, the hand is writing, the score is to be settled in time. I hope Israel will take this into account. If Israeli jets did join the war, what targets would they have, what air routes would they find, there's such an air traffic jam now."

Clark's assistant said he hoped "cool heads" would prevail despite the provocation. "Stay cool. I know it's hard advice for anyone to hear."

He declared: "We're in the early stage of what will be a long war with even longer consequences."

Boyer said he rejected the simplistic analysis that Canada was in the war only because of the interest of the United States in the oil of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Fear of reprisals real

Security increased across Canada

TORONTO —

Many Jewish institutions and organizations across Canada are taking precautionary measures to increase their security in the wake of the Gulf War.

Fear of reprisals must be considered because of Israel unique position in the Gulf wars, they say.

However, spokesmen are trying to put out the fire of fear that could overtake calm reason. They stress that there is no sense in alarming the community as, at the present time, there is "no heightened threat" to Canadian Jewry.

Simon Kahn, Canada-Israel Committee's director of public affairs, reports that the Israeli Embassy in Ottawa has a security official liaisoning with communities across Canada.

Although specific details regarding security are sketchy to avoid tipping off a potential attacker, in some instances, private guards have been hired and police are increasing their patrols in neighborhoods deemed to be higher risk.

In Ottawa, Hillel Academy Day School told parents at a meeting Sunday that three security guards have been hired and, because of the school's proximity to a highway, police patrols have been increased. A buzzer system at the front door will be more carefully utilized.

In Toronto, there were eight incidents of anti-Semitic vandalism last week, all involving spray-painting Iraqi and pro-PLO slogans. These occurred at one institution, one day school and six shuls.

An official of Canadian Jewish Congress, which has posted a $5,000 reward for data leading to the conviction of those responsible, said that the incidents "did not have their desired effect on the community."

Last Wednesday as the allied forces began bombing Iraq, David Satok, CJC community relations committee chairman, told about 450 community leaders and professionals convened at a previously arranged meeting that there was no real increased threat because of the Gulf War.

However, "prudence dictates that Jewish institutions be very much on the alert," he said. This has led to more visible security at virtually all Toronto institutions including schools, shuls, cemeteries and the Jewish Community centres.

Concern has forced the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council's security committee, to consider a number of unspecific security measures.

Sid Ritter, head of the council's security committee, said there are no indications of any serious threats.

"We are always aware of security" because the Jewish community is involved in public activities.

David Satok

In Vancouver, police and the RCMP, which serves as the provincial police force in British Columbia, have placed Jewish institutions under "special attention" surveillance.

Norman Fages, chairman of the CJC Pacific Region security committee, said Congress has been assured "there is no heightened threat to Jewish community institutions" because of the Gulf War, but "it is important to remind you not to forget always to be security conscious."

He reported that the police in Oakridge and the suburb of Richmond have offered to conduct a security check of buildings or to provide any necessary advice.

Security precautions were outlined Jan. 16 at the Vancouver Jewish Community Centre, which houses the Jewish Federation, Congress and a number of Zionist and Israel-based organizations.

One of the top priorities was how to deal with preschool and day-care classes for young children; evacuation plans were discussed in case of a bomb threat.

Some synagogues report that they will hire guards for Shabbat services and for special occasions such as bar/bat mitzvahs.

On Vancouver Island, the police have assured Charles Shnider, president of the new Victoria Jewish Community Centre, located in neighboring Saanich, that the building would be closely watched.

In Montreal, police have promised to increase surveillance and assign "special attention" status to community institutions.

* * *

With files from Ron Csillag in Toronto, Randy Fisher in Ottawa, David Lazarus in Montreal, Myron Love in Winnipeg and Maurice Lucow in VAncouver.

MDA seeks funds for extra blood

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

Although the Israeli Embassy in Canada has not received requests from Jerusalem for help, at least two Israel-based organizations are appealing to the Diaspora for emergency funds following the Iraqi missile raids.

Magen David Adom for Israel, the Israeli equivalent of the Red Cross, has issued a worldwide appeal for $2.5 million to place it "on war alert," according to a statement from Canadian Magen David Adom in Montreal.

The funds are needed immediately to buy blood packs, protective suits and breathing apparatus used in chemical or gas attacks, and to upgrade the MDA's ambulances, mobile field hospitals and "blood-mobiles," the organization says.

The request came from Israel's Health Ministry late last week.

The money will go toward ensuring that all emergency and disaster workers in Israel are ready in case of a chemical attack and that special chambers in first-aid stations are equipped for casualties of chemical or biological weapons.

Funds will also be used to collect blood in Israel, MDA adds.

Donations may be sent to Canadian Magen David Adom, 5180 Queen Mary Rd., suite 420, Montreal, Que., H3W 3E7, (514) 489-5327.

The Tel Aviv Foundation, which raises money for the City of Tel Aviv, has also launched a fund-raising campaign, says the foundation's Canadian director, Gideon Saguy.

Contributions will go toward repairing the buildings hit by the Iraqi missiles mainly in two areas of the city, Saguy said.

Donations may be sent to the Tel Aviv Foundation, 241 Walmer Rd., Toronto, Ont. M5R 3P7, (416) 967-9210.

In Ottawa, Israeli Embassy spokesman Ephraim Mazor told The CJN the embassy has received calls from people wanting to know what they can do.

Mazor said the best thing to send to Israel is cash. Cheques may be made out to State of Israel and mailed to the Embassy of Israel, 50 O'Connor St. suite 1005, Ottawa, Ont., K1P 6L2.

In Montreal, Israeli Consul Shalom Cohen said the Consulate has fielded many calls, mainly from people expressing a desire to go to Israel.

In Toronto, Consul-General Benjamin Abileah said the consulate has received "dozens" of calls from non-Jews, every one of them supportive of Israel.

The Consulate has a pre-recorded telephone line that features the latest news from Israel, in Hebrew. It may be reached by dialing (416) 961-1127.

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Canada/Gulf

Jews join in prayer following Tel Aviv bombing

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —

Nearly 1,000 men and women from all over the city came to a hastily arranged service at Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in Thornhill to recite Tehillim (Psalms) in reaction to the Iraqi bombing of Tel Aviv.

After receiving a phone call just before 7:30 p.m. on Thursday evening from his son, saying that his yeshiva in Lakewood, N.J. had begun saying Tehillim, and seeing television reporters putting on gas masks, Rabbi Baruch Taub, the synagogue's spiritual leader, contacted the synagogue's telephone committee. He asked them to telephone not just shul members, but the general community as well.

"I felt that this was one time that the whole community should be together."

Charles Diamond, president of Toronto Jewish Congress and Julia Koschitzky, president of the United Israel Appeal and her husband, Henry, attended.

There were even some non-Jews who came, said Rabbi Taub.

"They said they wanted to show their solidarity with us."

Rabbi Taub explained at the beginning of the service that the reason the book of Psalms is read at times of crisis, as opposed to any other book of the Bible, is that "It is the only book where G-d is silent.

"From beginning to end, the neshama (soul) of the Jewish people is speaking.

"His (G-d's) purposeful silence allows for the thunderous response of the Jewish people."

Rabbi Taub told the non-Jews "join with us — open the prayer book and say words from your heart."

Chazzan Chaim Adler led the recitation of Tehillim.

The congregation, many of them teenagers, responded fervently, some sobbing quietly.

A young boy came around with a cardboard box, which quickly filled with money for charity.

When an emotional Chazzan Adler finished (he himself moved to Toronto from Tel Aviv only last year, and has immediate family there), Rabbi Taub loudly recited the Israel Chief Rabbinate's prayers for the State of Israel and for her soldiers.

He urged the congregation "to seize the moment" to increase the number and the quality of the mitzvas that they observe, to perform acts of chesed, loving-kindness, and especially to work for achdus Yisrael, the unity of the Jewish people.

* * *

Earlier in the week, on the evening of Jan. 14, over 1,000 members of Toronto's Orthodox community filled the sanctuary of Agudath Israel Synagogue.

They were heeding a call from the Vaad Harabonim of Southern Ontario and other Rabbinic bodies, including The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations, the Rabbinical Council of America, Agudath Israel of America, National Council of Young Israel and Lubavitch in the United States, to spend the evening in a communal recitation of Psalms.

They were also asked to mark the next day as "Yom Kippur Katan", by fasting for half a day, doing teshuva (repentance), and giving charity.

Rabbis Nechemia Rockove and David Saperman led the increasingly emotional crowd, who, except during the Psalms, were almost eerily silent.

Over and over the comment was heard, "I just felt I had to be here."

The psalms included Psalm 13 — "How long will You hide Your face from me?"; an emotional Psalm 22 — "My G-d, why have you forsaken me?"; and Psalm 121 — "He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber not sleep."

Rabbi Moshe Lowy, spiritual leader of Agudath Israel, noted that in Israel, over 100,000 people were praying at the Kotel, the Western Wall.

"At the time when the world is shaking, only G-d can help us."

Rabbi Gavriel Ginsberg, rosh hayeshiva of Ner Israel, said that Jews must stand together and proclaim their trust in G-d.

His face contorted and voice breaking with emotion, he said that klal Yisrael should not fear war with soldiers and nuclear weapons.

"Our sword is Torah and *tefillah* (prayer)."

Rabbi Yitzchok Kerzner, spiritual leader of Clanton Park synagogue, said that we must realize that we are all alone in the world.

"Our alleged friends are in a conspiracy to stifle the Jewish spirit."

It is not enough to pray and fast, he said.

We must avoid dissension among ourselves, Rabbi Kerzner said.

The Second Temple, according to tradition, was destroyed because of baseless hatred among the Jews of the time.

Speaking in Yiddish, Rabbi Yehoshua Fuhrer, rosh hakollel of Bobov yeshiva, urged Jews to get happiness and satisfaction from our own tradition, rather than looking for them in the outside world.

People from the Chassidic, Agudah, yeshiva, religious Zionist and central Orthodox communities attended the program at Agudah, observed the fast, and throughout the week recited special prayers and Psalms in their synagogues, homes and schools.

* * *

CJN correspondent Maurice Lucow reports that in Victoria, British Columbia, special prayers for peace and for Israel were led by Rabbi Reinstein both on Shabbat and at a rally held in the synagogue Sunday, Jan. 20.

The Rabbi also called on the congregation to pray for the safety of one of its most active members, Colleen Gibbings, who is in Israel.

Gibbings remained in Israel after a Canadian Jewish Congress executive meeting during the first week of January, intending to return on Jan. 15.

However, Gibbings, a nurse, later advised her family that she would stay despite the war to help in whatever way she could.

Over 1,000 people recited Tehillim, Psalms, at Agudath Israel Synagogue. [Alron photo]

Christian organization prays for Israelis' safety

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

Hour long prayer sessions are being held every day for the safety of the Jewish people and Israel in the Oakville office of the Canadian Friends of the Christian Embassy in Jerusalem.

"The threats of missile attacks against Israel show the real intent of Saddam Hussein, the truth is just now coming out," said Alan Lazerte, director of Canadian Friends.

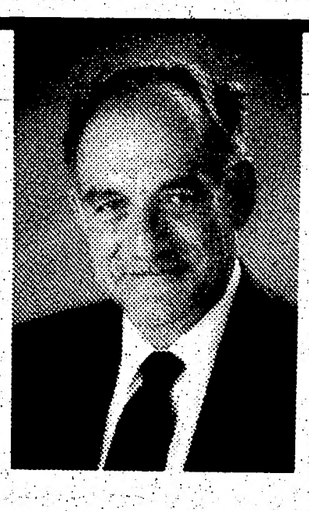
"His heart has always been on Jerusalem," Lazerte said. "He will try to convince his enemy Iran to march with him to take over Jerusalem."

The staff of the Christian Embassy in Jerusalem is "hanging tough and nobody is leaving," he told The CJN.

The Canadian Council of Churches has expressed solidarity with the people of Israel. "We wish to assure your community of our deepest concern for the people of Israel," said a telefax to the Canadian Jewish Congress from Bishop Donald W. Sjoberg, president. "We fervently pray for God's peace and guidance in these uncertain times."

Special services for the safety of Israel were held Jan. 12 in evangelical churches throughout the world, according to a spokesman for the religious radio station WDCX in Buffalo.

The Christian Embassy of Jerusalem is sponsoring Israel Encounter 1991 Jan.17-19 at the Hyatt Hotel in Orlando, Florida, where several leaders of Israel's government as well as leaders of Jewish organizations in the United States are scheduled to speak. Many prayer sessions are scheduled.



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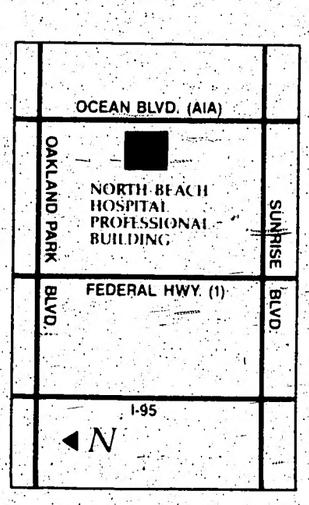

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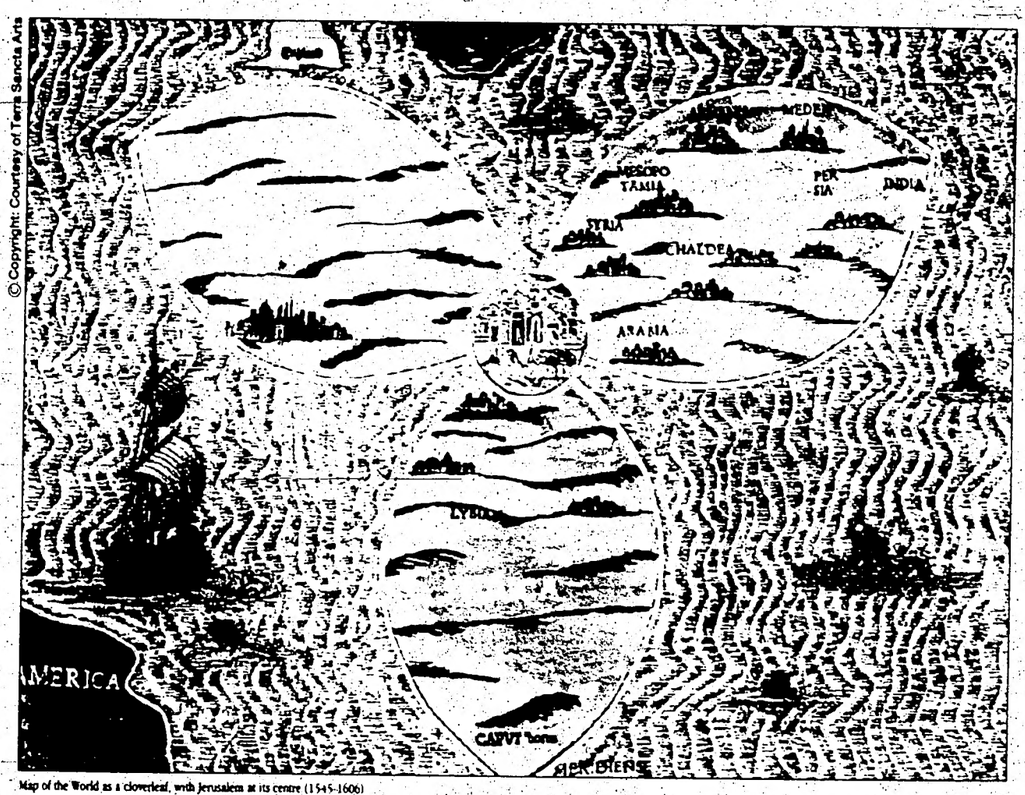

Map of the World as a cloverleaf, with Jerusalem at its centre (1545-1606)

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Arrived before UN deadline

Families eagerly greet relatives coming from Israel

By
GIL KEZWER

TORONTO —

In the tension mounting in the Middle East, hundreds of anxious relatives crowded around the overseas arrivals gate at Pearson International Airport awaiting the arrival of El Al flight 209 — the last plane to leave Israel for Canada before the United Nation's Jan. 15 deadline for Iraq to pull out of Kuwait.

English-, Hebrew- and Russian-speaking families shared a common relief in seeing their loved ones pass through customs to the safety of Canada.

Raphael Hadayo, a 55-year-old sabra, and his Bulgarian-born wife Varda, 48, were there to greet their daughter Avital, 25, and grandchildren Mor, 2, and Adam, 1.

The Hadayos, now dual citizens of Canada and Israel, immigrated to Toronto in 1976. Avital returned to Israel nine years later.

She told The CJN, "I don't want to make it sound like I'm running away. My parents and husband wanted me to come. My husband wanted to sleep quiet at night. He sent me here."

Hadayo, who lives in the Rishon le-Zion seafront suburb of Pueblo Espanol, said her husband had received his annual *miluim* (reserve duty) call-up to his tank unit for the end of the month.

She added he also received a *tzav hitkonenut* (alert order) to be readily available should the call-up be advanced.

"I'll tell you, it's scary. But people are in good spirits. Most people think it won't be (war). You feel the tension."

Hadayo was unconcerned about the possibility of losing her job due to an extended absence. "I'm staying for six weeks. If there's a war, I'll stay longer."

Fellow Israeli expatriate Maurice Saadia, a native of Tunis living in Toronto since 1960, was also waiting nervously to meet a daughter, Daniella Ginesh, 33, and two grandchildren, David, 13, and Mor, nine. Ginesh's husband is remaining in Israel.

"Her mother is afraid for her," Saadia explained frankly.

Some of the Israelis leaving customs were reluctant to speak to the media. Two unidentified Chassidim curtly said, "We have family here. We came for a week, 10 days."

Another man, bearded and with long *payess* (sidecurls), who claimed he served in the elite Golani paratroop brigade, angrily shouted, "What do you want to ask questions about — the flight or those who aren't returning?"

Some 20 Canadian students at Israeli universities and yeshivot were on the flight.

Three generations of the Geist family brought helium balloons and a welcome-home sign to greet Rebecca, 18, a first-year student at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Geist had been waitlisted on three flights before getting a seat on the fully-booked El Al 747.

Hugging her father, Sam, Geist said she had left all her possessions in Jerusalem.

"Everything is fine," she insisted. "I'm going back in two weeks and I don't care what."

With tears streaming down her cheeks, Leah Stark welcomed her son, Eddie, 21, who had been a volunteer at Kibbutz Mishmar ha-Negev for four months after completing a three-month Gadna course.

"It's scary," he said. "I left the day they were giving gas masks to tourists."

Not everyone was so eager to be returning. One mother, who did not wish to be identified, said her two sons, yeshiva students, had to be coerced to leave.

"I was very insistent that they come here for obvious reasons. And they were very insistent that they stay. But I prevailed."

Leaving behind the spectre of war — Toronto Israeli expatriates Varda Hadayo (left) and Raphael (right) give an emotional welcome to their daughter Avital and grandchildren Adam and Mor who arrived on El Al's last flight to Canada before Jan. 15. Avital's husband, who recently received a call-up notice, remained in Israel. [Alron photo]

Hadassah leaders visit Israel

TORONTO —

A joke current in Israel in the tension-filled days leading up to the outbreak of war in the Middle East last Wednesday asked why there is a drought in the Jewish State. The gallows humor response was: If you were rain, would you come now?

Reasoning if they cannot bring badly needed precipitation, they can at least show their solidarity with their presence, a group of 24 Hadassah-WIZO of Canada leaders together with seven of their husbands flew to Israel for a week-long visit in the final days before the UN's Jan. 15 deadline expired.

Pat Alpert of Toronto, H-W's national recording secretary, said: "People were so grateful. It was really humbling. Everywhere we went, Israelis thanked us. The manager of the Jerusalem Hilton was up at 4 a.m. the day we left (Jan. 14) to thank us again."

Sandy Posluns of Toronto, a frequent visitor to Israel, added, "I have never had strangers walk over to thank me profusely and tell me how much it meant to them that Jews from the Diaspora would join them now."

Though the international media highlighted panicked foreigners fleeing the country, Alpert emphasized the mission participants were uncowed. "The Israeli people are very stoic, very brave, and their attitude was contagious."

Eleven of the mission participants whose children have made aliya remained in Israel with their families.

Among those staying were Esther Matlow of Toronto, the newly-elected president of the 17,000-member national Zionist women's group, who organized the trip; Naomi Frankenburg of Vancouver, H-W's immediate past president; Cori Friedman of Edmonton, national vice-president; Miriam Peletz of Montreal, national treasurer; and Pearl Sheffy Gefen of Toronto Chapter.

The presidential mission carried on a business-as- usual itinerary touring Canadian Hadassah-WIZO projects like the Hofim Absorption Centre for Ethiopian Jews outside Acre, the Hadassim Youth Village in Netanya, and the Assaf Harofe Medical Centre in Tzrifin, near Lod.

While the threat of war was grabbing all the headlines, the mission witnessed Israel's ongoing efforts to cope with a massive and unabated influx of immigrants.

The Canadians stood on the tarmac at Ben-Gurion airport to greet the 280 Soviet olim arriving on an El Al 767 from Budapest. Albert described them as dazed, while Posluns noted she saw one elderly man kiss the ground.

At Hadassim, where some Russian youth are being sent, five students are sleeping in rooms designed for two beds, Alpert reported. "They are overflowing with children."

Mirial Small, a past national president, explained the Hofim dormitories are being expanded to accommodate 440 students from Ethiopia. At present, 280 Africans are at the school. Siblings between the ages of 7 and 17 are not being separated, she said.

Though the army was on a heightened state of alert, the mission was able to inspect a Gabriel missile boat docked at the Haifa naval base, thanks to strings pulled by Irving Matlow, president of the Toronto chapter of the Association for the Soldiers of Israel.

For Lilly Frank, H-W's executive director, the highlight of the trip came Jan. 14 when she joined a throng estimated in the tens of thousands at Jerusalem's Western Wall in a solemn eleventh hour prayer assembly for Israel's security and rain.

She described the scene as a "sea of blacks hats" reciting psalms and *Avinu Malkeinu*, and spoke of "shivers" as the shofar keened.

Why go to a country on the brink of a potential poison gas conflagration? Said Frank of the IDF: "It's a mishpocha type of thing. These are our sons and daughters."

Added Posluns: "There is a time when all Jews must stand together."

— G.K.

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Canada/Gulf

Iraqi missile barrage alarms Israelis, olim

Since war broke out in the Middle East last Wednesday, overseas telephone circuits in Israel have been jammed by calls from anxious relatives abroad.

With considerable difficulty getting through, **Gil Kezwer** *prepared the following report.*

TORONTO —

Jews across Canada were horrified by news reports last Thursday that Saddam Hussein had launched SCUD missiles, possibly tipped with nerve gas, against Israel.

But Jackie Adler, a former Torontonian now retired in Netanya, had a sanguine perspective on the terror attack, which turned out to be from conventional warheads.

The London, England-born Adler lived through the Blitz and rain of terror in 1944-1945 as the British capital shook under Hitler's rocket bombardment.

"There's no comparison," the 64-year-old grandmother told The CJN in a telephone interview Friday following the first missile attack, which came at 2 a.m. Israel time (7 p.m. EST).

"The V-1s and V-2s were much more nerve wracking. They seemed to be much bigger. What they sent over last night (Jan. 17) was very small, thank God.

"As far as I'm concerned, what happened 50 years ago was much worse.

"I personally am less scared of chemicals than high explosives because I know what they can do."

In the best traditions of a British stiff upper lip and stalwart Yiddishe momma, Adler said she was preparing chicken soup for Shabbat as always.

She reported her son, Derek, daughter-in-law, Angela, and 11-month-old granddaughter, Talia, had come — with their gas masks and poison proof crib — for dinner. (No curfew was in effect.)

But unlike other Fridays, they were going to sleep over in Netanya, three generations sharing a sealed *chamal* (war room).

She reasoned the seaside location was safer than their home in the Tel Aviv suburb of Givat Shaul — some eight km from where a SCUD exploded several hours before.

Adler emphasized her neighbors are apprehensive Saddam may yet fire another salvo — fears which proved well warranted.

"We're not minimizing the danger. But we're in good spirits. We need the emotional support of Diaspora Jews."

* * *

Friday evening, in the midst of a second night of sleep continually interrupted by the wailing of air raid sirens — at first false alarms — to which an entire nation rose to don gas masks, Adler's daughter-in-law Angela reacted to the threat to her child's life.

She became hysterical at the prospect of putting her baby in its sealed crib and was rushed to a hospital nearby where she was sedated with tranquillizers.

(The Jerusalem Post reported some parents of young children panicked and refused to put on the masks.)

Mark Adler of Thornhill reported his brother and sister-in-law were considering flying to England for several weeks to join Angela's parents in Liverpool.

* * *

Like Jackie Adler, for Tynka Markus of Moshav Rishpon near Herzliya, the missiles also brought back memories of the Second World War. The 62-year-old Holocaust survivor, who spent three years living in the forests of Poland, urged her relatives here "not to worry."

Then ominously the line went dead.

In an earlier conversation, her husband, Avraham, repeated the axiom that the country's security situation always appears worse in *hutz le'aretz* (abroad) than in Israel itself.

* * *

Since last Wednesday, when all day cares centres, kindergartens and elementary and secondary schools were closed, public life and commercial activity has ground to a virtual halt.

Describing the atmosphere, Esther Carmeli of Moshav Ahihud, a Yemenite settlement east of Acre, said, "The state is paralyzed as if it were Yom Kippur."

With military censorship clamped down, wild rumors are spreading, she reported. She has heard Saddam Hussein is targetting Ramat Gan, just east of Tel Aviv, where a large concentration of Iraqi and Kurdish Jews live.

In the days before the war erupted, rude posters sprouted on Dan buses in Tel Aviv showing a hand with the middle finger dropped (the reverse of in Canada) pointing at Saddam Hussein, she said.

According to a black humor joke about the SCUD missile's putative inaccuracy, circulating before Jan. 17, Saddam Hussein sent a rocket to Tel Aviv and then followed it up with a telelgram to Prime Minister Shamir enquiring if it had arrived.

No one is telling jokes like that anymore.

* * *

Some Canadian Israelis have taken the precaution of leaving the country.

Tamar Newman, a now-unemployed tour guide in Jerusalem where she has lived for two decades, was vacationing in Eilat earlier this month. She decided to join friends from the United Nations's Jerusalem bureau who were staying in Cairo at the American Embassy compound.

Fran Lewkowicz, a 35-year-old English teacher, also originally from Toronto and living in Jerusalem for the last 10 years, left Jan. 14 to join her mother, Fela, at her parents' condominium in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

The Sabbath came but there was no *menucha* (rest). The air raid sirens wailed several false alarms, and then shortly after dawn Iraq unleashed at least three more SCUDs bringing more wanton destruction to Tel Aviv.

Video footage, evidently shot from a window of the Television Authority in Jerusalem's Romema district, showed Chassidim cloaked in their tallitot and wearing gas masks, scurrying for shelter as the alarm was sounded.

All across the country, observant Jews were drawing a comparison between Parshat Bo — the week's Torah reading — and the current Mideast war.

The reading, documenting the 10 plagues visited upon Pharoah's Egypt, asks, "How long shall this man be a snare unto us?"

In modern Hebrew, the biblical word snare means "land-mine."

The haftorah describes a war between Egypt and the Babylonian tyrant Nebuchadnezzar — in whose footsteps Saddam Hussein says he is following. Like today, Israel was caught in the middle of that ancient conflict.

"Scary" situation in Israel prompts show of solidarity

By STEPHANIE CHAPMAN and PAUL LUNGEN

They drew together not only to show their solidarity with Israel but also to find comfort during a fearful and sorrowful time.

The younger participants singing and chanting for Israel were fierce in their loyalty — many of them were experiencing for the first time a threat against their spiritual homeland. The faces of their parents and grandparents were lined with worry but not resignation.

As the crowd filed into the Beth Tzedec Synagogue, some were subjected to body searches while others had their bags checked by uniformed police officers.

Outside, some of the 12 to 15 policemen patrolled the streets around the Beth Tzedec with their squad cars in clear view. Inside, about 10 civilian shomrim (guards) with walkie talkies and wearing earphones provided additional security.

The crowd exceeded the capacity of the main sanctuary, and volunteer organizers directed them to the synagogue's chapel and banquet halls where the proceedings were piped in on loudspeakers.

People milled about in the halls. One young girl walked through the halls with a blue and white Israeli flag draped around her shoulders.

"It was funny to talk to my family in Israel ... they said in some cases, we Canadians are more worried than they ..." said one man to his friend.

"That's because they're prepared — they've done it and lived this situation before — although that in no way lessens the fear for them. Over here, we're worried because we don't know what's going on at all times. We're ...

"Helpless," said another woman joining the conversation.

Rosaline Zisman of Toronto said she has spoken to her family and friends in Israel.

"How were they? Confident. They have great support from the Israeli government and they feel the military will protect them."

Darren Brown said he has some good friends in Tel Aviv and Herzliya and his brother is planning to make aliya in a few months.

On learning of the missile attack, Brown said his concern "was larger than worrying about a specific family or friend. I really feel, as corny as it sounds, that my concern was for everyone."

Debbi Till is a 21-year-old student who returned from studying in Israel last year. She and her mother, Annette, were anxious to gain as well as to offer emotional support to others.

They had spoken to their family who live outside Tel Aviv the day of the rally.

"Some of them said they felt like sitting ducks. They were angry that Israel had made no attempt at retaliation.

"They are very Israeli so they were trying to make it sound as if everything was OK — that they were in control and doing all right. One of them said that she just wanted to make it through the night. It's really scary," Debbi said.

MISSILE DAMAGE

The damage caused by an Iraqi SCUD missile in Tel Aviv when the city came under attack by up to eight ground missiles on Friday. [AP wire photo]

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At the urging of the Council of Torah Sages, tens of thousands of Orthodox Jews came to an emergency assembly at Jerusalem's Western Wall on Jan. 14 to recite Psalms and Avinu Malkeinu. Shown here is the beginning of a specially printed order of prayers.

One of the victims of an Iraqi SCUD missile is taken out of an ambulance at a Tel Aviv hospital by Israeli troops. [AP wirephoto]

Politicians outraged by unprovoked attacks

By
RANDY FISHER

OTTAWA—
Canadian reaction to Iraq's attack on Israel was swift, with federal and provincial leaders condemning the unprovoked attack.

Iraq's "diabolical and unprovoked attack on innocent Israeli citizens" was swiftly and categorically condemned by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney last Thursday night, shortly after he received word that SCUD missiles had fallen on Tel Aviv and Haifa.

In a letter to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, dated Jan. 17, Mulroney expressed his horror and revulsion.

"Canada deplores this criminal act. It demonstrates, if anyone was still in doubt, the threat that Saddam Hussein poses to international peace and security."

In the aftermath of the first attack, Mulroney pledged assistance to Israel and its citizens, including medical supplies.

The newly-appointed Israeli ambassador to Canada, Yitzhak Shelef, expressed his government's appreciation for the Canadian statement.

While the federal Liberal party continued to call on the government to re-evaluate Canada's role in the Gulf war, Opposition leader Jean Chretien condemned the attack on the Jewish state and, in a statement dated Jan. 18, expressed his party's solidarity with the people of Israel.

He praised Israel for acting with remarkable restraint in remaining a "non-combatant."

"In this dark hour, we urge calm and deliberation," he said. "We urge the government of Canada to maintain close contact with the government of Israel. We urge this government to offer Israel whatever humanitarian assistance may be appropriate."

Toronto Liberal MP Jim Peterson (Willowdale) also praised Israel's restraint. "This outrageous act . . . has forced Israel into one of the most difficult dilemmas a nation can face, namely the Hobson's choice of responding in self-defence at the risk of breaking up the multilateral alliance against Iraq, or doing nothing and thereby encouraging further armed aggression against it by Iraq or others.

"In spite of its right of self-defence under international law, Israel has demonstrated amazing restraint in the face of this threat to its security and has deservedly earned the admiration of the civilized world."

Federal NDP leader Audrey McLaughlin issued a statement Saturday evening, in which she concemned the Iraqi attacks.

"As Canadian Jews join together today . . . my thoughts and my heart are with you and with all Canadians who have friends and family in the Middle East."

Saying that it was her "deepest hope" that Israel continue to refrain from retaliation, McLaughlin urged the government to "act constructively" to end the war. "May the madness end. May we find peace. May we find it soon," she concluded.

In a telephone interview Sunday, the New Democratic Party's defence critic hewed to the party line.

"We see the use of military force as a mistake and we continue to see it as a mistake," said Victoria MP John Brewin. "It was a wrong decision.

"The Canadian government has not come at the whole question front on — they're coming at it sideways," he said, adding that "they keep shifting . . . We believe that sanctions would likely have gotten Saddam out of Kuwait."

British Columbia's Social Credit Premier Bill Vander Zalm expressed "shock and sympathy to all our families of Jewish descent," especially to "those with loved ones in Israel."

Vander Zalm's message, sent via the Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region, was read at the Shabbat service at Congregation Emanu-El in Victoria by Rabbi Victor Reinstein. It was also read at the community solidarity-with-Israel rally held Sunday at the Schara Tzedek synagogue in Vancouver.

The premier's message said the events in the Middle East in recent days "have given us all cause to reflect profoundly on what a truly unfortunate time this is for the world community. It is inconceiveable that one unelected leader can knowingly inflict so much unnecessary and thoroughly unjustifiable suffering on so many."

At a press conference prior to last weeks' attacks on Israel, Conservative Premier Gary Filmon of Manitoba expressed hope that "those who have had to take decisions have done so with the knowledge of all the alternatives and consequences."

He described Saddam Hussein as a barbaric person impervious to discussion, negotiations or sanctions. He felt Iraq's arsenal of nuclear and chemical weapons and his warlike intentions left the allied forces ranged against him no choice.

NDP leader Gary Doer, leader of the official opposition, was still hopeful diplomatic options remained open. He said economic sanctions would have been the better solution in the long run.

Liberal leader Sharon Carstairs was "heartened" that most of the bombing of Baghdad was directed at military rather than civilian targets, although she said she realizes there will be civilian casualities.

The implications of the Iraqi attack on Israel concerned her. "I believe Israel has the right to retaliate," she said. "I am concerned though about what that may do to the alliance."

With files from Myron Love in Winnipeg and Maurice Lucow in Vancouver.

Emergency cash drive launched

TORONTO —
An emergency cash drive to bring in as much cash as possible to the United Jewish Appeal, Combined Jewish Appeal and the United Israel Appeal of Canada was announced on Sunday by Julia Koschitzky, national president of the UIA of Canada.

"We're asking people to contribute as much as they can," Koschitzky said. "We're appealing especially to those who have made pledges to the campaign which they have not paid so far. We're asking them to pay immediately as much as possible. And we are also calling on people to come forward with new cash.

"This is an emergency to which we must respond," Koschitzky stressed. "Our identification and solidarity with Israel is this hour of need must be expressed in terms of concrete support."

Announcement of the special cash drive was made at major communal rallies held early in the week in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver and other cities across Canada. The rallies drew thousands of people.

Walter Hess, executive vice-president of UIA, received a call on Sunday from Mendel Kaplan, chairman of the board of governors of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem. Kaplan said Keren Hayesod, the World United Israel Appeal with which Canada is associated, has called on its campaigns around the world to provide $100 million (U.S.) in cash within the next three months. Canada is the leading campaign within Keren Hayesod, and it is being asked to assume an appropriate share of this sum, Hess said.

The call to contributors to pay up unpaid commitments refers to both regular and Operation Exodus pledges.

Toronto UJA is mailing thousands of cards to its contributors, announcing the emergency cash drive, and giving the UJA Cash Hotline number (416) 631-5705. It also lists a Volunteer Hotline number (416) 631-5700, for those who want to join UJA's volunteer ranks.

In Montreal, the Combined Jewish Appeal's Cash Hotline number is (514) 345-2600. Contributions to UJA and CJA are also accepted through Visa and Mastercard charges.

Koschitzky said that even on the day the Iraqi missile attack on Israel took place, flights with Soviet immigrants arrived from Eastern Europe. The "sacred work of Operation Exodus" goes on despite the emergency.

Israel has run up enormous costs in preparing for an outbreak of hostilities in which the country would become a target. The Israeli economy in the past few days has come to a halt, flight and other insurance rates have shot up, and a massive decline in tourism income are all adding up to a financial crisis. This comes when Israel is facing the overwhelming task of absorbing 200,000 immigrants, and keeping Israel's gates open to thousands of Jews in the Soviet Union seeking to get out and afraid free emigration might get hurt.

Faith, humor unite Israelis

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Even four-year-old Dafni Lief had a telephone support network. After every siren, she contacted her kindergarten classmates to see if everyone was all right. "I scolded the naughty ones who wouldn't put on their masks," she said. "I told them they're really being silly, that this could save their life."

Dafni's mother was lucky. Many children panicked at the prospect of wearing a frightening-looking mask or of crawling into a claustrophobic gas-impermeable tent. In this war on the homefront, it is the mothers who have been charged with perhaps the most difficult and challenging task: preparing children for a possible chemical assault.

Some mothers try to convince their children that the hood is really a spaceman's outfit. Others have colored the surfaces of the ominous black masks to make them seem less threatening and, as one mother put it, "to turn them into part of the household, like pyjamas and toothbrushes."

Jenny Taub convinced her two-year-old daughter, Matty, to scurry into the plastic tent in the middle of the night by telling her that "it's all part of Purim, the holiday of the masks and tents.

"She seems to have bought it so far," says Jenny, after her fifth air raid alarm in two days. "In fact, every time she sees a public service announcement on TV showing how to use the masks and tents, she shouts, 'Look Mommy, they're celebrating Purim!'

Macabre jokes

"She'll probably be confused about Purim for years to come, but what else could I tell a two-year-old? That a madman is launching missiles at us?"

The horror of the situation in which Israelis find themselves has also prompted a slew of macabre jokes. Many have been greeting each other with the salutation normally reserved for the days prior to Yom Kippur when, according to Jewish tradition, God decides who will be inscribed in the Book of Life. *G'mar hatima tova* (May you be inscribed) is quickly gaining on *Lehitraot* (See you again) as the most common greeting among a people with an acute sense of black humor.

Among Israel's religious population, there is a confident sense of God protecting his people, even a feeling that the arrival of the Messiah is imminent. Saddam is seen as just another in a long chain of tyrants — Pharoah, Haman, Antiochus — whose futile attempts to destroy the Jewish people are destined to backfire. Rabbis quote scriptures that seem to predict the turbulent events of today. In all of them, the outcome ushers in a new golden era for the Jewish people.

Even among Israel's stridently secular population, there is an underlying feeling of faith. After a dozen missiles landed in Israel's crowded population centres in two days, many can only regard as miraculous the fact that no one was killed.

"As long as the people of Israel are united, no one can ever defeat us," said Leah Amar, sitting in the sealed room of her Jerusalem apartment, filled with neighbors, friends and relatives.

Even Efrat Levi, who gave birth on the night of the 16th, would not let her spirits be dampened, despite her son having spent the first 48 hours of his life in a gas-proof chamber. "I decided to name him Or," she says. "I want him to bring light to the world."

If most of Israel's wars have been marked by extraordinary military bravery, this one will be remembered differently. In a war in which the bunkers are the sealed rooms in people's homes, and defences are drawn from an arsenal of faith, humor and solidarity, the heroes of this war are sure to be the mothers and children and other "soldiers" fighting a battle on the homefront.

Leora Frucht, an ex-Montrealer, is now a freelance writer living in Jerusalem.

A bomb shelter is cratered by a SCUD missile after an Iraqi missile attack on Tel Aviv. No one was in the shelter at the time. [AP wirephoto]

In Brief

From CJN wire services

FLIGHTS NOW LINK MOSCOW, TEL AVIV

El Al started weekly charter flights between Moscow and Tel Aviv on Wednesday. The new service is not bringing immigrants but taking visitors from Israel to the Soviet Union and back.

* * *

FEWER SOVIET OLIM

The outbreak of war in the Middle East has curtailed but not halted the massive flow of aliya from the Soviet Union.

As of Jan. 20, 9,100 olim have arrived, about half the number of the corresponding period in December.

* * *

SCHOOLS CLOSED INDEFINITELY

Israel's school system, which shut down Jan. 16, will remain closed until further notice because of the threat of SCUD missile attacks, the Education Ministry announced Saturday.

* * *

JERUSALEM, EILAT HOTELS OVERFLOW

Iraq's missile attacks on Jan. 18 and 19 have proved an unexpected boon to hotels in Jerusalem and Eilat, which report a wave of demand for rooms from anxious Tel Avivians.

Foreign journalists are pouring into Jerusalem, while Eilat is being flooded with foreign diplomatic personnel and their families.

Many Tel Avivians on a tight budget are staying with family outside the city.

* * *

COMPENSATION FOR MISSILE DAMAGE

Israelis who sustained property damage in the Iraqi missile attacks over the weekend will receive government compensation for their loss within a week, Income and Property Tax commissioner Moshe Gavish said Saturday.

Gavish noted assessors had already been sent to the attack sites but refused to discuss their estimates, citing security reasons.

* * *

EL AL ON SCHEDULE

Foreign airlines may have abandoned Ben-Gurion Airport but El Al is maintaining a steady stream of air traffic in and out of the country.

On Sunday, the national carrier operated 30 international flights — 15 in and 15 out. Four were cargo runs bringing in raw materials and taking out agricultural exports to Europe. The rest were passenger flights.

El Al is continuing with its regularly scheduled Monday and Wednesday flights from Canada.

* * *

GEMS TO ANTWERP

Even before war erupted, Ramat Gan diamond merchants stepped up exports of precious stones to Belgium because buyers were wary of coming to Israel, a gem industry official said Friday.

Further attacks may set off Israeli reaction

TEL AVIV (JPFS) —

Additional Iraqi missile strikes may make Israeli reaction all but unavoidable, military sources stated Sunday, adding that Israel's air defence, while much improved by the deployment of Patriot missiles, remains penetrable.

Despite government efforts to return civilian life to its normal routine, the Israeli Army has cautioned that an end to Iraq's capability to launch missiles at Israel may be days or even weeks away.

"We want very much to see the population functioning more and more normally," Army spokesman Brig.-Gen. Nahman Shai said, "but we don't want to see the population exposed to threats. And the fundamental factor has not changed. Iraq retains a surface-to-surface missile capability to strike at Israel."

"Every day the Iraqi loses a portion of his ability to strike at us," Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron said, "but this also boosts his motivation to do so."

But Shomron stated that Israel's air defences should continue to limit casualties to a minimum.

On American efforts to destroy Iraqi missile launchers, Shomron said: "As much as we would like to see the problem eliminated, you must understand that the principal American effort is directed toward long-range, strategic goals, and this is also in Israel's interests.

He noted, however, that the United States "knows that we are not prepared to absorb continuing attacks without acting to remove the threat."

The problem of finding and destroying the launchers is complicated by the extensive search area involved, he continued, saying that the H2 and H3 air/missile bases occupied an area twice that of the entire Negev.

Shomron expressed great admiration for the public's response to the Iraqi attack, observing that cooperation with instructions and lack of panic have "allowed room for making the right decisions in a complex situation."

AFTERMATH OF MISSILE ATTACK

An Israeli Army demolition expert in chemical protective clothing examines a piece of the rocket motor of the Iraqi SCUD missile which fell on a residential area of Tel Aviv. [AP wirephoto]

Montreal Jews show solidarity

[Cont'd. from page 1]

security guards were on duty.

Canada-Israel Committee Quebec chairman Thomas Hecht said the mood in the Jewish community is reminiscent of that during Israel's 1967 and 1973 wars. "We are here to demonstrate our unbreakable unity and indivisible solidarity with Israel," Hecht said.

"We are grateful that we are not alone. The civilized world recognizes the diabolical designs of this barbarous tyrant and stands with us."

He said the world is awed by the discipline of Israel in not retaliating, but "no one can dissuade or prevent Israel from defending her people."

Confident of their victory, he called on the coalition governments to ensure that the Middle East is a safer place for Israel after the war.

The Canadian government's sympathy and solidarity with Israel under "unprovoked and brutal attack" was extended by Secretary of State Gerry Weiner. He brought Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's promise "to do everything in his power to guarantee the future security of Israel . . . War has come and Canada will not flinch or swerve from its responsibility to the UN or to its traditional friendship and support of Israel."

Weiner called Hussein a "fanatic whose aggression knows no bounds" and the shelling of Israel an "evil, criminal act."

Messages deploring the attacks on Israel from Liberal and NDP leaders Jean Chretien and Audrey McLaughlin, as well as the Canadian Council of Churches, were read.

Other politicians in the audience were Liberal MPs Sheila Finestone and David Berger, Equality Party leader Robert Libman and Cote St. Luc Mayor Bernard Lang.

Jean-Charles Chebat, past president of the Combined Jewish Appeal Sephardi campaign, received applause when he said Canada should sever its dipomatic relations with Iraq and its "intimate and friendly" ties with the PLO.

Expressing the feelings of many of the young people in the audience, Abigail Wisse said she was filled with "rage and hatred" by the attacks on Israel and felt jealous because she could not join the Israel Defence Force in "the heroic opportunity of defending Eretz Yisrael."

She said she was proud of the way Jewish students have rallied to Israel's support in the present crisis.

Bush, Shamir hold telephone talks

JERUSALEM (JPFS) —

U.S. deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, President George Bush's personal envoy, arrived in Israel on Sunday on a mission that diplomatic sources said was part of an American effort to keep Israel out of the war.

In his first public remarks since the war erupted, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told Israel Television on Sunday night, that Eagleburger's visit was linked to new "strategic cooperation" with the United States. Eagleburger, who was here early last week in an unsuccessful effort to obtain guarantees that Israel would not retaliate if attacked, was accompanied by Paul Wolfowitz, assistant Secretary of Defence for International Security.

Bush has spoken by phone with Shamir three times in the last few days, in sharp contrast to the eight-month period last year when the two had no phone contact.

"There is some confidence building going on here," a foreign ministry official put it, "and it is not just between the two countries. It is also between their leaders. This sort of co-operation is important, because war is the real test of friendship."

Shamir termed his talks with Bush "heart-to-heart" and "very friendly."

The arrival of two batteries of advanced Patriot missiles is the most public illustration of U.S. support for Israel. The American crews manning the Patriots until Israeli personnel are trained to replace them, may become the first U.S. soldiers involved in military action in defence of Israel.

Officials expressed the hope that the hasty delivery of the Patriots would boost Jerusalem's patience and keep it from striking out against the continuing threat of SCUDs from Iraq.

Bush has also pledged intensive U.S. efforts to eliminate Iraq's SCUD launchers. Expressing "anguish" at the missile attacks, Bush told Shamir the United States would use "every resource" in its search-and-destroy mission against the SCUDs. This public expression of support contrasts with the pre-war period, when the United States did everything to hide its military support for Israel.

Israeli officials have indicated the government would wait to see if the Patriots and bombings of missile sites ward off attacks, thus making retaliation unnecessary.

However, the United States is said to be concerned that should there be another missile attack and further casualties, Israel could not be restrained. According to the Washington Post, Israel has yet to obtain a U.S. commitment to coordinate operations should it decide to retaliate. Gen. Norman Schartzkopf, commander of allied forces in the Gulf, told CNN yesterday that no coordinating body has been set up. This is believed to be a major factor in the decision not to retaliate at this time. Without prior co-ordination, Israeli aircraft could interfere with allied planes searching for Iraqi targets.

Should the SCUD attacks resume and the United States withhold coordination, some fear Israel may take desperate action. According to the Washington Post, there is fear that Israel may use its Jericho missiles to retaliate, obviating the need for co-ordination between the two air forces.

The United States fears that Israeli involvement in the war would disrupt its coalition with Arab states. But some U.S. officials discount Arab protests, on the assumption that Israeli retaliation would not be disproportionate. The Arabs in the coalition, they say, want to be on the winning side. However, the fear still remains that Israeli involvement could transform the conflict and, perhaps most critically, trigger Jordanian participation.

During their meeting Sunday night, sources said Eagleburger told Foreign Minister David Levy: "You have our sympathy, and we'll make effort to get this thing over with."

The United States is also sending an aircraft carrier to the eastern Mediterranean off the coast of Israel, the Pentagon said. The USS Forrestal, carrying jets and reconnaisance aircraft, was being sent from a base in Mayport, Florida.

JWV condemns attack on Israel

TORONTO —

The Jewish War Veterans of Canada have condemned Iraq's attack on Israel.

In a statement, JWVC National Commander Sen. Jack Marshall that "this belligerent act of aggression was uncalled for and cannot be tolerated. It is a futile act by a desperate man to weaken the resolve of the opposition against him.

"The government and armed forces of Israel have shown remarkable restraint in dealing with the 'collateral damage' caused by this attack.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to all Israelis who have weathered the storm, and our sorrow goes out to the victims of the violence unleashed by (Saddam) Hussein. Courage and resilience are needed is these difficult times and we hope that casualties will be kept to a minimum by a speedy end to this conflict," Marshall said.

Jewish students mobilize in support of Israel

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO —
Over 100 university and high school students gathered outside the Israeli consulate last Friday afternoon chanting prayers and singing songs in support of Israel.

Some held Israeli flags and others marched with banners displaying such slogans as We Support You Israel and Israel We Are With You. All students joined together in loud renditions of Am Yisroel Chai and Haveinu Shalom Aleichem.

Joey Felson, chairman of Jewish Students Network-Canada, co-sponsors of the rally along with NAHON (North American High School School Organization Network), said that "we the Jewish students are outraged at the unsolicited aggression by Saddam Hussein against Israel and we wish to express our support and solidarity with Israel in this time of crisis.

Canada commended

"Israel, as a soverign state, has the right to defend itself against any such attack," Felson said. "Even President (Hosni) Mubarak of Egypt reiterated Israel's right to retaliate against unprovoked aggression. The demonstration of undeserved restraint on the part of the Israeli government deserves international praise and applause."

Felson stressed that Network commends the Canadian government for its "firm stand against this ruthless dictator" and expressed hope for a speedy resolution to the conflict in the Gulf.

He said that Network has helped unite all Jewish students in Toronto and has "mobilized" students across the country to hold similar rallies.

Pam Scheininger, chairman of NAHON, said that "we, the North American Jewish high school students, stand today in full support of Israel and its policies. We are behind Israel in its time of crisis and we hope and pray for its safety and security."

Benjamin Abileah, consul-general of Israel, made an appearance at the rally, thanking everyone for showing solidarity.

"After this war we hope the Middle East will look different," he said. "Justice should reign and the Palestinians will have to rethink their goals and come and make peace."

Rabbi Nosson Westreich of the National Conference of Synagogue Youth, said a prayer for the safety of soldiers in Israel and said that "we are demonstrating through prayer that we share a destiny with all our bretheren."

Before the rally ended with Hatikvah and O Canada, students demonstrated their solidarity with chants of We Support Israel. Say No To Iraq.

Jewish university and high school students rally outside the Israeli consulate to show support for Israel. [Alron photo]

Groups co-ordinate response to Gulf War

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —
Major Canadian Jewish organizations are co-ordinating their efforts in response to the Gulf war and its impact on Israel.

In a display of unity across the board, B'nai Brith Canada, the Canada-Israel Committee, Canadian Jewish Congress, the Canadian Zionist Federation and local federations in various Canadian cities are working together to coordinate a response to the crisis.

National president Les Scheininger said the CJC is "providing the network to enable the federations to receive information about the efforts across the country and thereby co-ordinate the regions" in their response.

Congress has asked its political liaison committees (PLC) and media response committees to ready themselves for further activities, he said.

Scheininger said the community will respond to events "one step at a time," as they unfold. But the mechanism permitting the community to do so has been made ready, he added.

The Jewish community, meanwhile, is maintaining contacts with the federal government through the Canada-Israel Committee, the community's advocacy group on behalf of Israel.

He said Congress was "certainly pleased" that Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Minister for External Affairs Joe Clark and Liberal leader Jean Chretien had contacted the community through the CIC to express their revulsion at the Iraqi missile attack on Israel.

Community rally held

In Toronto, B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Jewish Congress, the Canadian Zionist Federation, Toronto Jewish Congress and the United Jewish Appeal organized a community rally on Sunday at the Beth Tzedec Synagogue (see related story).

TJC executive director Steve Ain, acting as coordinator of the Toronto community response, said a telephone hotline had been established to coordinate the responses of hundred of volunteers who have offered their services in the community-wide mobilization effort.

Hundreds of volunteer forms were distributed and filled out by people offering their services at the community rally, to participate in letter-writing campaign, in the gathering of petitions or in acting as contacts with the media.

Ain said "we don't know if we'll have a special (fund-raising) campaign," but contributors to the United Jewish Appeal are being asked to make good their pledges even if they are not yet due.

Six planeloads of Russians and Ethiopians arrived in Israel during the early days of the Gulf war and more are on the way, he said. Meanwhile, Israel is forced to experience a costly mobilization of its forces.

"We don't know how this situation (in the Gulf) is going to play out politically, but there's speculation that pressure on Israel will mount and be severe. The community will have to be prepared," he said.

(The United States and European states have suggested an international conference dealing with a number of Mideastern problems, including the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, might follow the Gulf war.)

Israelis remaining calm in face of attacks: Dimant

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
"People in Israel are repeating that a miracle has occurred," Frank Dimant told The CJN from Jerusalem. "The missiles have been falling on populated centres but nobody has been killed. Even secular Jews are echoing the words of the Lubavitcher Rebbe that everything will be fine."

The executive vice-president of B'nai Brith Canada went to Israel Jan. 14 to express solidarity with the people of Israel.

"We're bracing for a missile attack," Dimant said at 3.30 a.m. Israeli time Jan. 20. [That attack never came.]

The Israelis feel very good about the delivery of Patriot missiles to their country but "everyone here is asking why did it take the Americans so long," he said.

In calls to relatives and friends Dimant said he found that people are tired of staying indoors and that children especially are fidgeting. One of his relatives lives near where a missile landed in Tel Aviv and went out to inspect the damage. A missile landed near the house of a friend but no damage was done.

The mood of the people is just as confident after the missile attacks as it was before, he said, with the new dimension that they are comparing their situation to that of the people of London, England, enduring bombing in the Second World War. "It is an interesting analogy," Dimant said.

Visited Great Synagogue

There is nothing but praise from the people of Israel for the statesmanship of Israeli leaders in holding off from retaliation, the B'nai Brith leader said. "If any verification of this stand was needed it came when Yitzhak Rabin went on the air to endorse their stand."

On Shabbos, Dimant said he went with Howard English, director of communications, and Jacob Atteslander, a B'nai Brith member, on a 10-minute walk from the King David Hotel to the Great Synagogue. Only 16 people were at the service, he said, but this was not surprising since people had been asked to stay indoors after the previous night's missile attack. The service was accelerated and was over by 10 a.m.

On the street before the attacks, people who saw their Canadian pin lapels shook their hands and said "Kol Hakavod".

Dimant said they met Canadians from Ajax, North York and Thornhill who were working at a military base as volunteers. "They were over here for the third time as volunteers," he said.

There seems to be little knowledge of what Canada's position is since the missile attacks started, Dimant said, with the Israeli people being most interested in the reaction of the Americans, British and Arab countries, in that order.

The King David Hotel was virtually empty when the Canadians checked in Jan. 14 but it is now filled to capacity as people from Tel Aviv have poured in, he said. As well a lot of Tel Aviv residents have gone to Eilat.

Dimant said he and his colleagues all had to trim their beards so gas masks would fit properly.

Editorial/Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

An independent Community Newspaper serving as a forum for diverse viewpoints.

Shevat 10, 5751 — Beshalach
Candlelighting: Montreal 4:30; Toronto 4:58

Canada shares in the outrage

The swiftness of the Canadian government's reaction to the Iraqi missile attacks on Israel has brought a measure of comfort to our apprehensive community and has helped to reinforce the ties between the two countries.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's condemnation of the unprovoked attacks came almost immediately after the first missiles fell on Tel Aviv and Haifa, and was visceral in its anger.

No one expects — or would want — our government to govern on emotion alone. But in those first moments of anguish, it helped to know that the Prime Minister shared our outrage at Saddam Hussein's vicious attempt to fracture the unity of the multinational coalition by dragging Israel into the Gulf war.

Would that all our political leaders had felt that anger, that swiftly. Although it came a day late, Liberal leader Jean Chretien's response at least spoke of distress, revulsion — and solidarity with the people of Israel. The New Democratic Party's Audrey McLaughlin, however, could not resist implying that the war itself — not the man who began it with an unprovoked attack on a neighboring Arab state — was somehow responsible.

Combat in the Gulf has only just begun. The recent missile attacks on Saudi Arabia demonstrate that Israel is still at risk in a war that will test the determination and cohesiveness of all the countries of the coalition, and the support of their citizens.

Saddam Hussein's record is filled with acts of brutality. He rules his own people through terror, and has waged war on his own minorities and on fellow Moslem and Arab states. He made no attempt to settle his differences with Kuwait through negotiations, and he has cynically encouraged suicidal support from Palestinians. His attacks on a non-combatant and his shameful treatment of prisoners of war should surely open the eyes of anyone still naive enough to believe that he would honor any international agreement for one second longer than it served his ruthless ambition.

Under great provocation, Israel has responded, not out of its outrage, but out of its courageous determination to act in the best interests of a world whose survival depends on respect for the rule of international law.

For Canada's sake, and for Israel's, let us hope and pray that all the allies — Western and Arab, leaders and people alike — will share in that outrage and emulate that determination.

Yiddish author celebrated

Congratulations to YIVO, the Yiddish cultural agency, for its outstanding exhibition (which continues until March 15 at its New York City centre) of memorabilia on the great Yiddish writer Sholom Aleichem.

Sholom Aleichem, the pseudonym of Sholom Rabinovich, was born in 1859 in the Ukrainian town of Pereyslav. After a short career as a government rabbi, a clerk and a small businessman, he began writing fiction.

The special charm of the YIVO exhibition on Sholom Aleichem derives from the displays of original editions, photographs, newspaper articles, posters and personal letters connected to both the European phase of Sholom Aleichem's career as well as his American experience.

The man who achieved fame in the Jewish world for his Tevye stories — the origin of *Fiddler on the Roof* — had a difficult time pursuing his metier in the United States. In 1905, after pogroms in Russia, Sholom Aleichem came to New York and spent a year in the United States. He did not settle finally in New York until 1914.

The YIVO exhibition records, with considerable pathos, the difficulties Sholom Aleichem experienced in his American career as dramatist, journalist and lecturer. Simply put, the new Jewish immigrant population could not relate to Sholom Aleichem's Eastern European ethos. His job as a columnist with the Yiddish daily *Der Tog* was soon terminated; his plays closed down quickly.

When he died in 1916, however, more than 150,000 people came to his funeral — which was attended also by the major civic leaders of New York City.

The YIVO exhibition is an authentic tribute to Sholom Aleichem, the man who revitalized the Yiddish language, because it does not gloss over the difficult career path he trod. As a result the grandeur of the man who did so much for Yiddish language and culture is enhanced.

TO THE EDITOR:

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

* * *

YIDDISH FACING DEMISE

Your editorial Yiddish Language Continues to Thrive (Dec. 6) suggests that Irving Howe was "being too pessimistic" in stating that Yiddish is dying, "destined to go the way of Latin." The editorial documents signs of the alleged revival of Yiddish. If only your false optimism was warranted. Unfortunately, it is Irving Howe's pessimism which remains much closer to reality.

It is both incredible and irresponsible for a Jewish newspaper to celebrate the "thriving" of the Yiddish language. Such empty enthusiasm only serves further to foster the atmosphere of complacency and passivity regarding our endangered Yiddish heritage, which reigns in the Jewish community.

The sole bit of concrete evidence which you muster regarding the health of Yiddish is the fact that several prestigious universities offer courses in Yiddish, and that researchers study Yiddish in order to "excavate archival materials." Might I remind you that the same institutions all have well established classics departments in which Latin and ancient Greek are taught. Does this suggest that these languages, too, are thriving. Certainly, the purely antiquarian interest in Yiddish archival materials is no evidence of its thriving.

As for the Yiddish theatre as a barometer of the health of the Yiddish language, you must understand that there is an immense, essential difference between the stage, and the real life of a people. The academic and theatrical careers of a language should not be confused with its actual welfare.

If Yiddish is ever to thrive again, it must once more become the living language of a people. It must be taught at the primary and secondary levels in our Jewish day schools, and must become again the language of traditional Jewish and rabbinic learning. It must be heard, not only in the ivory towers and on Broadway, but in the Jewish home, street, school and synagogue.

For the past few years, I have been campaigning to revive the Canadian Yiddish press. I have tried, so far in vain, to convince our community's lay leadership of the need for some form of Yiddish journalism in this country, even if only in the form of an insert in the CJN.

Rather than celebrate the "thriving" Yiddish language, we should sound alarms warning of its imminent demise, and act to help rescue it from obscurity.

Joseph Y. Nadler
Montreal

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JEWISH AGENDA VIEWPOINT

We find it disturbing that Helen Smolack (CJN Jan. 3) objects to the New Israel Fund's support of a number of projects in Israel, including its support for Israel's Association for Civil Rights. It is to the credit of Israel that it tolerates an organization which insists that the rule of law be applied to all inhabitants of Israel and its occupied territories.

Yet this enlightened tolerance is something of which Smolack seems incapable. Fortunately, she does not represent the views of Canadian Zionists, who as a group, are more pluralistic and open-minded than she is.

The trouble with her right wing version of Zionism is the obsession with fear which makes her incapable of risking dialogues with the enemy. Even worse, such Zionism fans the self-destructive flames of hatred. Of course Palestinians and other Arab nations also have their merchants of hatred and destruction. It is precisely this cycle of mutual hatred which must be challenged.

As members of New Jewish Agenda, we advocate a dialogue with the enemy, leading in time, to mutual respect and mutual recognition between two nations having legitimate claims to the Israeli/Palestinian territory. People like Smolack on both sides, serve to delay the peace process. Their politics are as incomplete as her quote from Hillel. Let's now complete that quote from Hillel: "If I am not for myself, who will be? If I am only for myself, what am I? If not now, when?"

Frieda Forman
Ben Carniol
Toronto

* * *

Felix Mendelssohn

NOT JEWISH MUSIC

In The CJN of Nov. 29 you advertised a concert by the Amadeus Ensemble and Moshe Hammer in "a colorful program of Jewish music for string orchestra featuring Felix-Mendelssohn, Srul Irving Glick and Gershon Kingsley!"

I would assume that "Jewish music" is music based on traditional Jewish melodies, either religious or secular. By this measure Mendelssohn's music does not belong in this program. His upbringing and music influences in his life were not Jewish, despite the fact that he was the grandson of the great Jewish philosopher, Moses Mendelssohn.

Felix was baptized as a child, before his parents converted to Christianity, and he was brought up as a Lutheran. His life was spent in an almost exclusively non-Jewish social milieu.

In Vol. II of "The Music Makers," Max Pirani writes in his biography of Felix Mendelssohn ". . . nowhere in his work can be discovered even a trace of either the Synagogue or the traditional lamentations which such an origin would suggest."

Mendelssohn adored the music of Bach and Handel and their "Christian" music was his artistic heritage. His oratorio "Elijah," the only composition related to anything Jewish, was in the great tradition of their oratorios and can hardly be called Jewish music.

I wonder why Mendelssohn is still regarded as a Jewish composer, or a composer of Jewish music?

Jack Orbaum
Sarnia

DO NOT MERIT COVERAGE

I question the wisdom of assigning a reporter (Ron Csillag) to interview the leaders of two Jewish groups, the UJPO and Jews for a Just Peace, on their views of the Persian Gulf Crisis.

There is no good reason for our community publication to assist these two insignificant groups, who justly consider themselves as being outsiders in our community, to peddle the "peace" propaganda of Saddam Hussein and Yasser Arafat.

Nowhere in the interview (CJN Jan. 3) is there any criticism or condemnation of the aggression by Iraq against Kuwait. All severe criticism is reserved for the United States and the state of Israel.

According to the warped reasoning of the leaders of these two groups it is the United States and Israel that are the cause of the crisis in the Gulf.

Joe Flexer, leader of Jews for a Just Peace, is quoted as saying — "War is a danger to Israel and all humanity." And who does he blame for that? "Unhappily," he says, "we feel Israel has been pushing for war (in the Gulf)."

They favor linkage of the aggression against Kuwait with the "Palestinian issue," a proposed propaganda ploy of Saddam Hussein. They petition our government to adopt such a linkage policy.

David Abramowitz of the UJPO says, "We're very upset with the United States saying they will not negotiate with Saddam Hussein. They want him to lose face. No one wants to lose face." It follows logically that appeasement of this monter is quite in order.

Morris Biderman
Toronto

* * *

83-YEAR-OLDS STILL SING

I enjoyed the article by J. B. Salsberg on Jewish music, and the letter from A. Berman of Bialik School, Toronto.

On Dec. 2, 1990 at the Golden Age Centre Auditorium on Westbury Avenue, a group of "Frail Elderly" participants from the Jewish Nursing Home Day Centre (average age -83), and Grade 6 students from the Jewish Peoples' and Peretz School presented an "Intergenerational" Concert and audience singalong.

Most of the songs were Yiddish and Hebrew, with some English and French as well.

Jewish music is alive and well in Montreal!

I would like to request a favor from your readers. I am looking for the words to an old song called A Mameh Izu Zine (To Be A Mother). One of the ladies at the day centre tried to teach it to me, but she had had a stroke and it was too difficult for her. I would like to suprise her and teach it to the group at our weekly music sessions. We may even include it at our next concert!

This and any other old Yiddish songs would be returned promptly and would be most appreciated.

For those readers who like the old Yiddish songs, but do not understand the words, I have done some English and French versions (for our non-Jewish staff, and French participants), and would be happy to share them with anyone interested.

Rose Gertel Wolkove
5666 Queen Mary Rd.
Hampstead, Que. H3X 1X3
514-488-4627

name game

There is a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years. Mr. Catzman reports on his research in The CJN.

* * *

SEGAL — CHAGALL

Segal is an acronym for SGan Leviah — a Levite who served the priesthood (Kohanim).

An interesting variation is the surname Chagall, which was the Litvak's way of pronouncing Segal, because they always pronounced SH as S and conversely S as SH.

It has also been suggested that the name Segal was used mockingly to describe a dishonest person and that it was an acronym for the Hebrew saying "Sof-Ganov L'tliah — a thief ends up on the gallows."

Since all the Siegels I know are honorable, God-fearing citizens, I do not subscribe to the validity of the suggestion. I include it only as a footnote of doubtful authenticity.

Opinion

Improved U.S.-Israeli relations by-product of war

By
RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

This column is being written on Sunday morning, Jan. 20. Up to now, Israel has been attacked for two consecutive nights and, in a demonstration of enormous self-restraint, has so far refrained from striking back at Iraq. Of course it is possible that when you read this, Israel may have done so, and in that case the shape and extent of the conflict may have been altered.

Rabbi Plaut

Meanwhile, here are some thoughts about the ongoing war.

• The prospect of retaliation: Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, called the term itself inaccurate. He said: There are two components to dealing with Iraq. One is to prevent future missile or airplane attacks, which is the immediate task, and there is an understanding with the United States on how to handle this aspect; the other is the question of punishing Iraq for its unprovoked aggression, and that is a matter to be evaluated at a later time.

• On fear: A Tel Avivian, who is an Auschwitz survivor, said to the CNN interviewer: You want to know whether I'm afraid? After Auschwitz, what is there to be afraid of?

• Arabs and Jews: Except for Egypt, the enmity of Arabs against the Jewish state is deep and continuous, and membership in the coalition has not lessened it. In return, Israelis have come to hate Arabs in general and are suspicious of most of them. It will take a long time to bring about a mutual healing after the war is over, but it is not an impossible goal.

Other nations have been embroiled in deep and apparently lasting hatreds. Thus, I remember from my youth how Germans felt about France, and vice versa, and three bitter wars made one believe that these feelings would last forever. They did not; and time and circumstance have changed the way in which the French and Germans view each other. So we too may be hopeful. In the post-war period we will face new realities which will demand new approaches of both of mind and heart — and from all sides.

• The media have given an inordinate amount of attention to Israel and have portrayed it in a highly favorable light. They have made it abundantly clear that Israel is a close ally of the West and especially the United States and all the tensions which existed between the two nations only a few months ago have for the time being been forgotten or shelved — which is a welcome side effect of the war.

• I have noticed that Jews in our Canadian communities have become very edgy. They are worried about their own security and that of their children. That is natural and understandable. I heard a program describing how Canadian children in general are reacting to the news, and for Jews of course there is a special dimension. For instance, I have been told that many of our children have shown difficulties in dealing with the very idea that we, as Jews, are more exposed than others and that our synagogues and schools may be ready targets.

Here, our parents and grandparents can take a lesson from the way Israelis handle their problems, and Heaven knows that these are infinitely greater and more threatening than ours. Think of what happens to small children when their loving parents put on gas masks and thereby suddenly transformed into unrecognizable monsters. Think of the reassurance they have to lavish upon their offspring, and of the courage to withstand the onslaughts of fate they have to transmit. Courage and reassurance — they are two keys to Israel's perseverance. How about some of this at home?

• My mind conjures up a particular image of Israel at war: Visitors leave the country while Russian immigrants continue to arrive. In the current housing shortage, hotels are increasingly requisitioned by the government, and the absence of tourists, painful as it is, has brought about one advantage: it has made temporary room for the Soviet aliya. As so often in our history, there is an unpredictable ebb and flow, and this exchange of immigrants for visitors seems to me a metaphor of hope.

Eerie time to begin new column

Disturbing parallels between two halves of century

By
RUTH R. WISSE

With this issue, we introduce a biweekly column by Ruth R. Wisse. Wisse, who teaches in the department of Jewish studies at McGill University in Montreal, has written extensively on cultural and political affairs for a wide variety of North American publications. We believe you will find her commentary informed and thought-provoking.

* * *

This is an eerie time to begin writing a column of Jewish concern. Once again, as if in imitation of a half-century ago, a man with a moustache has put the world on notice that he intends to bring it to its knees. Fortunately, this time, a good part of the international community determined — in the words of President George Bush — to engage in the war that Saddam Hussein initiated. Immense gratitude is owing to the political leaders, the military, and those people in democratic countries who understood that aggression can either be stopped by counter-force or abetted through inaction.

Ruth R. Wisse

Yet there remain disturbing parallels between the first and second halves of this century. When Hitler set out to conquer Europe, the destruction of the Jews was not his sole ambition. He wanted *lebensraum* for the German people which required the subjugation of many neighboring countries. But Jews, who were the strongest symbol of resistance to his dictatorship, offered him the weakest political resistance. Their disappearance was a goal he shared with many of the countries he sought to conquer. As a consequence, the destruction of European Jewry was the only part of his plan that Hitler succeeded in executing.

Likewise, Saddam Hussein had larger ambitions than the conquest of Israel. The annexation of Kuwait signalled his intention of dominating the Arab world, a goal he has been pursuing since his accession to power in 1979. But the elimination of the Jewish state is the goal he has in common with most of the countries he seeks to subjugate. Saddam Hussein made it clear that if thwarted in his larger aims, he will try to settle for the dismemberment of Israel.

The most ominous point of comparison between the two situations — the reason both Hitler and Hussein could be persuaded in advance of their success in attacking the Jews — is their earlier success in attacking the *idea* of the Jew. Hitler promoted anti-Jewish propaganda for many years before he planned the Final Solution, and saw that it did him no political damage. From some quarters he heard appreciative echoes. Elsewhere, a gratifying silence assured him of secret approval or, at worst, reluctant compliance. Diplomatic signals from the international community convinced Hitler that he could get away with his plan.

Saddam Hussein could have reached the same conclusion. The United Nations, the international body that set the deadline for withdrawing from Kuwait, has on its books a resolution that labels as "racist" the Jewish claim to nationhood. Representatives of democratic countries attend, and these days even credit the integrity of, the United Nations, without so much as passing reference to this warrant for genocide. Even South Africa, until recently the other permanent UN defendant, was attacked for its correctable policy of apartheid. Israel alone is accused for the crime of its existence. The "Zionism equals Racism" resolution gives sponsoring Arab states ongoing assurance of Israel's political weakness and feeds their hopes of conquest.

Since the crisis in the Persian Gulf, Saddam Hussein has heard this message louder than ever. He saw the readiness, indeed, the eagerness of the European community (with France in the vanguard) to toss him Israel as a bone for the oil guarantees they seek. Whatever others may wish to pretend, Hussein knows that an "International conference on the Middle East" is a method for isolating Israel politically so that the morale of the nation should crumble along with its borders. European overtures might have persuaded him that he would be doing the continent a favor should he pursue the *Judenrein* policy that it initiated.

A new element to excite Saddam Hussein is the changed attitude of Israel's closest ally, the United States. In the past, before the Soviet Union suspended its quest for world domination, the United States made it clear that Israel was an important strategic ally in the Middle East, one that would not be casually sacrificed to Arab ambition. This was emphasized through the U.S. voting record at the United Nations, and by explicit declarations of the president and members of his cabinet.

No such reminder was heard until missiles fell on Israel. In deference to the "sensitivity" of Arab countries, President Bush and his advisers appeared to have decided to elide Israel from their political vocabulary. The president no longer spoke of the bonds between the two democracies, of the U.S. commitment to Israel's security, or of Israel's strategic benefit to the United States. Even after the attacks, Israel is still being urged to "keep a low profile" so as not to embarrass and perhaps endanger the new Middle East coalition.

The Arabs are indeed sensitive — to every nuance of political change. The United States and other western democracies may think that they are making a temporary and justifiable compromise in deferring to Arab hatred in order to keep the coalition intact. But Arab rulers will draw inevitable conclusions from the apparent indifference of democratic nations to Israel's security. An ally that cannot be invoked with pride is no longer a prized ally. If Israel can be sacrificed politically to Arab pleasure in the short run, why not physically in the long run? Saddam Hussein will be defeated in his attempt to control the Middle East. But as long as democratic nations continue to ignore Arab hostility to Israel, including political and economic boycott of the Jewish state, they are giving him and all his would-be rivals the same fatal message that Hitler once heard so clearly.

More than money is needed

Israel, Diaspora exist inside unusual relationship

By
ELAINE KAHN

"Israel-consciousness" has been part of my daily life for less than 10 years. This means that many of the questions about my personal relationship to the state (or the North American Diaspora's to Israel), questions many friends and family members wrestled with and resolved years ago, are still live grenades for me.

Elaine Kahn

Though, as I'm not planning aliya, it often feels more like picking at a scab to keep the wound going than any form of rational discourse with myself.

I spent much of 1990 trying to figure out whether this Diaspora and Israel need each other anymore. It is a peacetime question, not much on my mind as 1991 and war begin. But when peace comes (and one does need to be optimistic once or twice a day, to break the gloom), the question will still be there.

Israelis, rightly euphoric at the Soviet aliya, thumbed their noses at North American Jewry with renewed vigor last year, assuring us that now more than ever, we are missing out on living Jewish history (not unlike a Quebecois author's recent comment that French-Canadians living outside Quebec are "still-warm corpses").

Whether all or half or three per cent of the Russians are really Jewish is beside the point — they are helping to build the state with their bodies. In some strains of classical Zionism, that's as Jewish as they need be and considered far more Jewish than us out here.

Also, Israelis have been the first to say, even as their leaders ask for more money, that what we send is a drop in the bucket, especially recently when, because of the aliya, massive investment in housing, jobs and education is what's needed.

And events leading up to the Gulf conflict seemed to show that the political clout of North American Jewry, something we often offer up as a gift to Israel, is not as strong as we'd believed. Some Israelis still claim they need us for moral support in the often hostile community of nations, but, at bottom, they want us there.

No one has yet explained to me who would then be out in the world to keep isolation at bay. I think Israelis believe that, if we were all there, Israel would be invincible, an argument I don't buy any more than the one of "Israel as haven" for every Jew in the world. Modern war technology being what it is, all of us in one place lacks a certain appeal.

On the other side, why do we need Israel any more or less than Italian Catholics or Indian Hindus living outside of Italy and India need those countries?

As a friend put it recently, probably the two communities can never be more than "kissing cousins." Israelis are better at facing up to this than we are, because they don't have guilt about not living here.

Take Amos Oz, I've read several interviews over the years in which he has bashed the very Diaspora that pays money to buy his books and bring him in to lecture and teach. In November, I went to hear him speak at Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto. He didn't bash the Diaspora — he didn't mention it at all.

Missing completely were any of the cozy "we are one" shticklach with which we are usually charmed by Israeli speakers. Oz could have been giving the same speech to a non-Jewish audience, so absent was the sense of kinship.

The next night, I tried my luck at the Book Fair lecture by Hirsh Goodman, editor-in-chief of a new Israeli magazine aimed at Jews both here and there. Aside from the occasional Yiddish phrase and a mild dig at how little the money we raise means in the grand picture of what Israel needs, there was no kinship in his speech either. When he referred repeatedly to Israel as "my country," it was impossible not to get the message.

Both Oz and Goodman spoke at what was already a very trying time, near the beginning of the drop-off in Jewish tourism to Israel, a staggering blow to its economy that, sources tell me, more than wiped out what gains were made by Operation Exodus. Israeli anger about this was, to put it mildly, justified (at least until war was truly imminent). But, if the drop-off had been picked up by non-Jews, would it really have mattered to them — as long as the hotels and restaurants and planes were again filled?

Most of the time I think the problem needs a good psychiatrist more than any political or sociological analysis, mine included.

So just one suggestion, to file away for when war is over, that could begin to put us on the road to a healthy relationship: let's eliminate the word "Diaspora" and use "Zionist" only for someone living in Israel.

"Zionist" was necessary outside of Israel for p.r. and fund-raising purposes that now seem outdated. "Diaspora," needed when there was no Israel and carrying the weight of thousands of years of Jewish sorrow, has a negativity we should reject, given most of us live here by choice. There is a huge disparity in self-image and values between "I am a Jewish Canadian" and "I am a Diaspora Jew."

Hirsh Goodman said the upcoming talented batch of Israeli leadership, mainly sabra Likudniks, has rid itself of the "galut" mentality. I think it's time those of us planning to stay over here unpacked that last emergency suitcase and got rid of it too.

Features

Iraq faces disaster

War could widen gap between West, Islamic world

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

The war in the Persian Gulf will not leave the Middle East untouched or unchanged.

Iraq, the aggressor nation, will feel the greatest effects as the multinational force, spearheaded by the United States, inflicts massive blows on Iraqi positions in occupied Kuwait and in Iraq itself.

It is too early to tell how long the war will last and whether Saddam Hussein's regime will survive the allied onslaught. But Iraq, with its bloated armed forces and its pretensions to pan-Arab hegemony, is likely to emerge with a reduction of political influence in the region, a ruined military machine and a crippled economy.

Iraq is unlikely to be occupied. Neither will Iraq be dismembered, since a vacuum in the area would destabilize the balance of power, create further regional rivalry and inordinately strengthen Iran and Syria.

As for Saddam, his place in Arab history books is virtually assured. By standing up to the West and its Arab "lackeys" and lobbing SCUD missiles into Israel, Saddam took on heroic proportions, at least in the eyes of those Arabs whose resentment and hatred of the West and Israel run deep. These circles will lament the wholesale damage inflicted on Iraq, but they will applaud Saddam for having faced the mighty Americans without flinching and for raining missiles down on Israel, the ultimate enemy. So in perverse terms, Saddam may turn out to be the greatest Arab political figure since Gamal Abdel Nasser, who never won a war and who, like Saddam, railed against Western machinations and battled Israel.

The coalition bombing campaign against Iraq, as well as the imminent land offensive into Kuwait, is bound to traumatize Iraqi society for years to come. And if the war is long and bloody, the existing order in countries like Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia may be endangered.

Wars, as we know, have a tendency to upset the status quo. When the Ottoman Empire's far-flung Arab dominions were pried loose from its grasp in the First World War, an era of Western colonialism began. By virtue of Israel's victory in 1948, Arab regimes fell like dominoes. The Egyptian monarchy collapsed. Coups d'etat convulsed Syria. The king of Jordan, King Hussein's grandfather, was assassinated. Iraq's monarchical system was overthrown.

It is important to note, however, that this bleak scenario is not cast in concrete, especially if the Gulf war is relatively short (less than a few months)and the Ba'athist regime in Baghdad survives, with or without Saddam.

Whatever happens, the war could easily widen the already yawning chasm between the West and the Islamic world. Some Moslems, even now, regard the enormous Western presence in the Middle East as an affront, viewing the Americans and their non-Arab allies as latter-day Crusaders.

Islamic fundamentalism, revitalized by the failure of Arab secular governments to confront Israel and by the rise of an Islamic regime in Iran, stands to benefit should the United States, as is probable in the postwar-period, establish a substantial strategic presence in the Gulf. U.S. collective security arrangements would undoubtedly involve Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states. It would not be surprising if Egypt, a key U.S. ally, is involved in such planning.

Certainly, the vaunted concept of pan-Arabism lies dead in the sands of the Arabian peninsula, buried by Saddam and his megalomaniacal dreams. The Arab world lies shattered, the fault line caused by the split turning on Arab attitudes toward Iraq's rape and pillage of Kuwait.

In any event, the Gulf crisis has resulted in the formation of a new axis, consisting of Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Whether it endures is debatable.

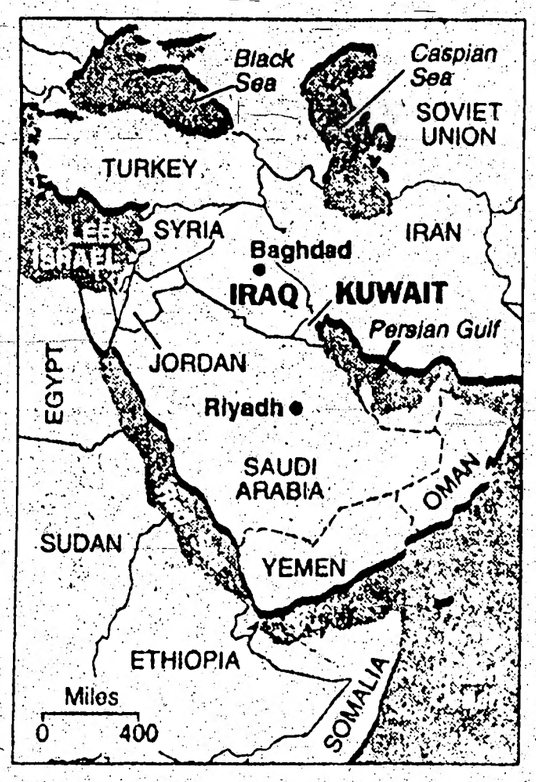
Israel's close relationship with the United States could be affected by Washington's special war alliance with Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the Gulf states.

From day one of the Gulf crisis, the United States asked Israel to lie low for fear of embarrassing its Arab allies and turning the crisis into an Arab-Israeli battle.

During the countdown to war and in the days after it broke out, the United States went to great lengths to preserve the anti-Iraqi coalition:

• Against Israeli objections, Washington agreed to sell Saudi Arabia —the linchpin of its Gulf strategy — a $21 billion package, divided in two parts, of sophisticated weaponry (Apache attack helicopters, F-15 fighter jets, M1-A2 tanks.)

•The United States supported several UN Security Council resolutions critical of Israel's stance toward the Palestinians. In one revealing instance, the U.S. representative, for the first time, backed a motion referring to "all the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem."



•Last week, in response to Iraq's unprovoked missile attacks, the United States sent Patriot air defence systems to Israel, with their crews, to restrain Israel from launching reprisals and thereby splintering the coalition.

Long before the Gulf crisis, there had been a cooling in relations between Israel and the United States — caused by acrimony over the status of the territories, the intifada, the stalled peace process and Washington's dialogue with the PLO.

During this interlude, the United States exhibited impatience with Israeli policies. Secretary of State James Baker warned Israel to foreswear the temptations of a Greater Israel. President George Bush was piqued at Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir for allegedly channelling Soviet olim to eastern Jerusalem.

Furthermore, the personal chemistry between Bush and Shamir was far from ideal.

Once the crisis began, Bush and Baker repeatedly rejected Iraq's demand to link Kuwait with the Palestinian problem. However, Bush did not rule out the need to solve the Palestinian question. Call this indirect linkage, if you will.

The whole notion of linkage, which is anathema to the overwhelming majority of Jewish Israelis, gained ground in Europe on the eve of the war. Analysts believe that after the war, under pressure from its European and Arab allies, there is a better than 50-50 chance that the United States will turn its attention to the festering Arab-Israeli conflict. And so implicitly, Saddam may be granted his wish for linkage.

David Levy, Israel's foreign minister, clearly recognizes this incipient trend. He believes that while the United States currently opposes linkage, "a psychological linkage has been created." As he recently put it: "In the post-crisis period, international elements will demand that Israel enter into a comprehensive peace process for the region, and we must be prepared for this."

Yet the push for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict can be beneficial to Israel if it leads to an equitable settlement that preserves Israel's security.

But if an international peace conference is merely a fig leaf to exert international pressure on Israel to divest itself of the territories unconditionally, the sparks will fly, and Israel's relations with the United States may suffer.

The Gulf crisis has dealt the PLO a heavy blow because of Yasser Arafat's identification with and support of Iraq. Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states have cut off funding to the PLO and all but broken ties with its leadership. Arafat's pro-Iraq policy has also alienated the United States, which severed its dialogue with the PLO last June after Arafat failed to denounce a Libyan-backed terrorist attack on Israel's coast.

More important, Arafat's pro-Iraq tilt has alienated Israelis who would have been prepared to deal with the PLO.

Since the start of the current crisis, Israel has watched the situation in Jordan with mounting trepidation. Jordan is a source of concern to Israel because of the nature of its relations with Iraq, its handling of the Gulf crisis, the composition of its population and the radicalization of its home front.

King Hussein established close political, economic and military ties with Saddam, and when the Gulf crisis broke Jordan cozied up to Iraq, angering the United States and alarming Israel. The Israelis were already worried by an upsurge of cross-border infiltrations along the Jordan River and Negev fronts, and by the electoral success of Jordanian Islamic fundamentalists, who are known for their fierce anti-Israel rhetoric. Palestinians, who make up about two-thirds of Jordan's population, voted in droves for the fundamentalists.

Israeli strategists have always regarded Jordan as a useful buffer zone between Israel and Iraq. But if Jordan becomes a battlefield in the event of massive Israeli retaliatory strikes on Iraq or an attempted Iraqi land thrust into Jordan, Jordan's utility as a buffer will be severely shaken and, perhaps, destroyed.

George Bush

King Hussein, who has massed troops on his border with Israel, has gone on record as warning Israel not to penetrate his land or air space, even for the purpose of launching reprisals against Iraq. If pressed too hard by Iraq, Israel may be unswayed by Jordanian admonitions.

If, in a worst-case scenario, King Hussein's monarchy is seriously threatened, Israel may intervene on his behalf, as it did in 1970 during the Jordanian civil war. But some Israeli cabinet ministers, notably Ariel Sharon, may prefer to see a Palestinian state in Jordan so that the pressure for an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is removed. However, it is far from certain whether the United States would tolerate King Hussein's demise.

Syria remains a wild card. The Syrians are members of the multinational force facing Iraq, but the Syrian foreign minister recently told Baker that Syria would reconsider its position if Israel becomes militarily embroiled. Egypt and Saudi Arabia, by contrast, have agreed that Israel is entitled to exercise its right to self-defence in the case of an unprovoked Iraqi assault.

Plenty of strategic targets

U.S. should exploit air power in Gulf

By
AHARON LEVRAN

It has been argued that strategic employment of U.S. air power against Iraq would not bring about Saddam Hussein's collapse. I had the opportunity to hear the argument personally from the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, Gen. Colin Powell, when he testified in early December before the Senate's armed services committee.

True, military history supports the notion that the use of air power alone does not yield victory. The experiences of the Second World War and the Vietnam war are cited as the main evidence. Few seem to remember how much air power contibuted to victory in the first and to the termination of the other.

When Second World War allies, for lack of better military options at the time, conducted massive air attacks (known as "carpet bombings"), they did not achieve their strategic goals; they did not even appreciably reduce Germany's war production. And even though in Vietnam the Americans dropped three times the amount of explosives they used in all of the Second World War, the results were disappointing.

But this is only part of the picture. As soon as the allies changed tactics and switched to pinpoint-bombing of targets of specific importance, like railway junctions, depots, bridges, etc., the bombings promptly yielded fruit. German ability to transport troops on land was drastically disrupted, and Luftwaffe aircraft had trouble taking off. These disabilities hastened Germany's understanding that the war was lost.

Similarly, the massive use of incendiary bombs against Japan, where houses were mostly made of wood, caused such severe devastation that Tokyo's leaders were persuaded the war should be ended, even before the dropping of the atomic bombs. In Vietnam too, once the Americans switched their bombing to critical targets like the capital Hanoi and the port of Haiphong, whose harbor they mined from the air (thus paralyzing Viet Cong movements), the effect was dramatic.

The decisive contribution of air power to Israel's victory in the Six Day War is well known. Less known is that Israel's air strikes in Egypt's rear during the War of Attrition (1969-1970) substantially advanced the conclusion of that war as well. And although Israel's strategic strikes in Syria during the Yom Kippur War did not bring Damascus to its knees, they left endurable marks on Syria's leaders. They have affected their deterrent posture, their weapon acquisitions, and the balance of forces in the Middle East to this day. In short, wise strategic use of air power, in contrast to rigid and unimaginative use, can contribute to decisive victory in war.

This is no less true with regard to Iraq. If the Americans possess a clear ratio-of-forces edge over Iraq, it is in the air. U.S. aircraft in the Gulf number some 1,300, twice the number Iraq possesses. Moreover, while the number of Iraqi aircraft (some 700) may seem impressive, in practice just a few squadrons took part in the long war against Iran.

If U.S., British and French aircraft execute only two sorties per plane per day (the Israeli air force executes twice and more that number in time of war), the daily number would be some 2,500 sorties. Indeed, within 12 hours of the beginning of the raids, 1,300 sorties were reported. Their effect has been formidable. Hundreds of important Iraqi targets were hit, and there are not that many crucial Iraqi objectives.

Iraq's military power comprises two pillars: one is its conventional ground and air forces - some million soldiers, about 5,500 tanks and hundreds of aircraft; the other is its surface-to-surface missiles armed with nonconventional - chemical and biological - components. It also has plants to produce these components, and nuclear enrichment facilities. What made Saddam believe he could defy and threaten the whole world was not his conventional might but rather this non-conventional capability. By concentrating on paralyzing this capability, both by destroying the chemical plants and the nuclear facilities and by eliminating the means of delivery, the U.S. airforce may well have removed any effective threat to American troops and to friends and allies in the region.

There is a chance that Saddam will understand that his game is over and draw the necessary lesson. He did so in 1982, when he ordered his troops to withdraw from Iran after they failed to achieve their invasion goals. But if Saddam remains obstinate and does not throw in the towel in face of the liquidation of his non-conventional power, he would not be capable of seriously endangering American troops or the Saudi oil fields. The U.S. airforce can always destroy other "classical" strategic targets in Iraq: command and control bunkers, fuel depots, power plants, bridges, etc. The unique advantage of the strategic air option is in its flexibility: it can be activated while its results are scrutinized and evaluated at each stage.

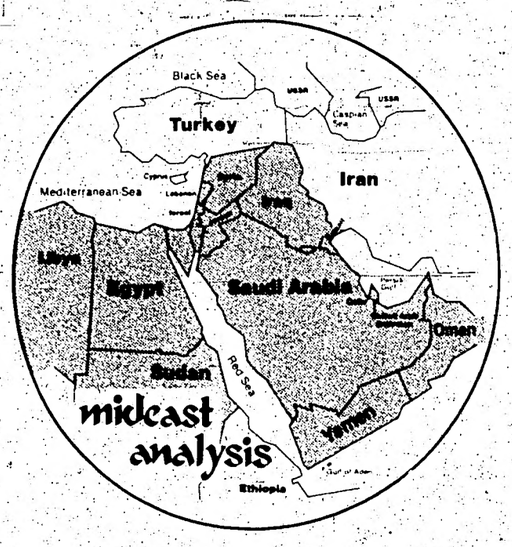
In short, the Americans in the Gulf should exploit their decisive domination of the air over Iraq. Before squandering U.S. air power on routine support of the land option, it should continue to hit hard at Iraq's strategic targets and thus decisively win the war.

(c)JPFS

(The author is a former senior Israeli military intelligence officer)

Foolhardy to grab Kuwait

Saddam Hussein committed grave miscalculations



There will be no compromise...
- Saddam Hussein, Jan. 15, 1990

By
SHELDON KIRSHNER

If Saddam Hussein had removed his blinkers before plunging headlong into Kuwait and pushing the Middle East into war, he could have pulled back from the brink and probably have achieved his objectives through political means.

But Saddam, in an act of naked aggression which has few parallels, threw caution to the wind, and triggered Operation Desert Storm on Jan. 16.

This, however, does not mean that Iraq had no grievances:

•Kuwait — and the United Arab Emirates — had deflated the price of oil by overproduction, at a time when Iraqi debts had skyrocketed due to its involvement in a ruinous and wasteful war with its historic enemy, Iran.

•Baghdad demanded that Kuwait write off loans of some $15 billion, in recognition of Iraq's role in stemming the forces of Iranian Islamic fundamentalism; a potential danger to the Arab world.

•Iraq claimed that Kuwait had "stolen" at least $2 billion dollars worth of oil from the disputed Rumailah oil fields in northern Kuwait.

•Iraq sought to lease or acquire two Kuwaiti islands — Warba and Bubiyan — that would have given it access to a deep-water port on the Persian Gulf.

If Iraq had exercised patience and reasonableness, Kuwait may well have yielded to its demands. In direct talks with Iraq last July, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates promised to lower production and thereby push up the price of oil. It also appeared that Kuwait might give ground on the other issues.

But Saddam, hewing to his own narrow agenda and dreaming of national glory, would not wait for Kuwait to comply. And so he invaded — and annexed — a defenceless "brotherly" Arab country, assuming he could do with impunity.

It's crystal clear that Saddam committed a series of grave miscalculations:

•He assumed that the United States would stand aside. To be completely fair, he had reason to believe Washington would be more or less neutral on Kuwait. April Glaspie, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, met with Saddam on July 25. According to a transcript of their meeting, Glaspie said: "... we have no opinion on Arab-Arab conflicts, like your border disagreement with Kuwait." Glaspie went on to add that James Baker, the U.S. secretary of state, supported this view.

Saddam could not imagine that President George Bush would "draw a line in the sand," that the United States would confront him over his alleged plan to invade Saudi Arabia and thus usurp much of the world's oil reserves.

Iraq was foolhardly to grab Kuwait, but it is still debatable whether Saddam actually intended to lunge into Saudi Arabia. In any event, Washington's perception of an Iraqi threat to Saudi Arabia, combined with Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, prompted its massive military buildup in the Gulf.

Apparently insulated from the currents of reality, Saddam and his associates foolishly convinced themselves that neither Bush nor his European allies, particularly France, would have the gumption for war. Certainly, Saddam misjudged the resolve of the heretofore divided United Nations, which would pass 12 anti-Iraq resolutions, climaxing with the Jan. 15 deadline to evacuate Kuwait or face eviction by force.

As well, Iraq blithely believed that the Arab world would not resist his brutal aggression. It is true that some Arab regimes — notably Jordan, Yemen, Sudan, Algeria and Libya — hedged, were cool to sanctions and opposed the dispatch of Arab and American troops to the Gulf. But to his probable surprise and dismay, Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia, among others, adopted a hard line toward Iraq, and thereby tore asunder what little unity there was in the Arab world.

Finally, Saddam misjudged the reaction of the Soviet Union. In the past, before the advent of Mikhail Gorbachev and his foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, who recently resigned, the Soviet Union was in lockstep with Arab policies. Moscow, after all, had firmly backed the Arabs during the 1956 Suez War, the Six Day War and the Yom Kippur War. And because the Soviet Union and Iraq had signed a friendship and cooperation treaty in 1972 and Moscow was Baghdad's chief arms supplier, Saddam may have thought that Moscow would not join the anti-Iraqi international coalition.

He erred egregiously. From one day one of the unfolding crisis, when Baker and Shevardnadze issued a joint condemnation of Iraq's aggression, Gorbachev was on side, supporting the UN embargo and, somewhat reluctantly, the use of force.

The Soviet Union had adjusted its foreign policy to accommodate the "new thinking" prevalent in Moscow, but Saddam seemed oblivious to the dramatic change. He appeared to misunderstand that Moscow had distanced itself from Arab radical regimes and had begun cultivating the moderates and the conservatives in the Arab camp, not to mention Israel. He seemed incapable of understanding that, with the dissolution of the Soviet empire in Eastern Europe and the end of the Cold War, a new era of East-West cooperation and perhaps amity had been ushered in.

Saddam, too, was unable to grasp the simple, but compelling, fact that the Soviet Union was in a state of economic collapse in the transition to a market economy, and thus needed Western credits, high technology and goodwill.

Moscow decided not to squander these potential benefits by backing Iraq, and so Saddam was abandoned and effectively isolated, not only by the West and a wide swath of the Arab world but by his erstwhile allies in Eastern Europe.

Once Saddam realized that the tide of international opinion was not running in his favor, he tried to split the coalition.

•He dredged up the Palestinian issue, thinking he could galvanize the Arab world.

Saddam Hussein

•He made hostages and "human shields" of foreigners living in Iraq, forcing a procession of cowed dignitaries, including Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, to beg for their release.

•In consistently lurid language, he and his spokesmen boasted that Iraq would resoundingly defeat the multinational force poised for an offensive. It seems they had no idea what faced them.

It was not surprising that Saddam focused on the Palestinians, a convenient lightning rod for disaffection in the region. Since Israel's emergence as a sovereign, independent state in 1948, Arab leaders from the Atlantic Ocean to the Persian Gulf have seized on the Palestinian question, with various degrees of sincerity, to bolster their nationalist and pan-Arab credentials, to legitimize their rule and to divert attention away from popular charges of corruption, sloth or inefficiency.

Saddam went one step further — he used the Palestinian card to justify the occupation and evisceration of a peaceful, albeit somewhat feudal and undemocratic, country. Only a truly myopic — or desperate — Palestinian could have been misled by Saddam's rather crude manipulative methods. Yet that transparent ploy didn't stop the PLO from identifying with Iraq and Yasser Arafat from threatening to unleash fire and brimstone against the United States in the event of war.

On Aug. 12, Saddam unveiled an old-new word — linkage. Iraq, he announced, would consider a withdrawal from Kuwait if the rest of the problems in the region were solved. He spoke of Syria's presence in Lebanon and, of course, the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Draping himself in the mantle of the Palestinians' savior, Saddam equated the rape and pillage of Kuwait with the simmering Palestinian problem, trying to establish a logical link between two entirely separate and different issues.

Virtually everyone agrees that the plight of the Palestinians must be fairly addressed, but if it had been held hostage to Iraq's untrammelled ambitions in Kuwait, diplomatic gridlock would have ensued and, with it, further tragedy.

In addition, linkage was expressly designed to reward Iraq for its aggressive behavior, a precedent that would have imperilled smaller, weaker nations in the region and around the globe. And linkage, as far as Israel was concerned, contained the seeds of Munich-style appeasement. No mainstream Israeli leader would have accepted it. Linkage, had it been adopted, would have further hardened Israel's policy vis-a-vis the Palestinians.

Saddam was playing not only to pro-Palestinian sentiment in Europe, but catering to a world-wide fatigue with the whole Arab-Israeli question. If he had succeeded in linking Kuwait with Palestine, he would have, as Bush correctly said, obfuscated the real issue and maybe have shattered the international coalition.

Besides, as observers pointed out, Iraq did not invade Kuwait for the sake of the Palestinians. Iraqi national interests, and greed, were the sole considerations. Iraq's longstanding claim to Kuwait, plus Saddam's misguided aspirations to lead the Arab world, lay at the core of the crisis which has now exploded into war. This much can be said in Saddam's favor: he was consistent. He never intended to leave Kuwait voluntarily. "The return of Kuwait is a fact and not a claim," Saddam said on the eve of Operation Desert Storm. "It is our 19th province..."

In a last-gasp effort to justify his invasion, Saddam referred to Kuwait as "a symbol for the whole Arab nation." Saddam also tried to exploit the deep-seated resentment of the Christian West among Arabs — portraying his action as "the great battle between the believers and the infidels." He demanded that "the forces of atheism... leave the holy land of Moslems," and that the Islamic world wage a jihad, or holy war.

The disharmony between his apocolyptic message and his record as an avowed secularist could not escape skeptical scrutiny.

Iraq professed a desire for peace. "We want peace," Saddam's Revolutionary Command Council declared in a Jan. 6 statement. "We want dialogue for peace." But Iraq's bleatings for peace rang false. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz stonewalled when he met Baker in Geneva on Jan. 9, not even mentioning Kuwait. Saddam humored UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar when he issued an 11th hour appeal for Iraq to come to its senses, and he rejected a last-minute French six-point peace plan which stank of appeasement.

Iraq's latest miscalculation turned on its assumption that Israel would automatically respond to an Iraqi missile attack. Israel, though boiling with rage after two such unprovoked attacks, has held back and thus deprived Saddam of his trump card — the ability to use Israel to split the coalition.

Saddam — an overweening despot who invaded Iran, gassed his Kurdish population, swallowed up Kuwait and fired SCUDs into Israeli cities — will pay dearly for his delusions of grandeur, his aggression and his hubris.

Jewish chaplain tends to needs of soldiers

NEW YORK (JTA) —

Armed with an inflatable life preserver, a crash helmet and a waterproof bag containing prayer books, kipot and a small bottle of sacramental wine, Lt. Maurice Kaprow, a U.S. navy chaplain, literally descends from the skies to administer to the religious needs of Jewish naval personnel scattered around the world.

Actually, Rabbi Kaprow, one of two Jewish navy chaplains assigned to Operation Desert Storm, is lowered at the end of a 10-metre wire rope from a hovering helicopter — dubbed the "holy hero" by crewmen — to the decks of naval vessels without helicopter landing facilities.

These smaller ships may have only one or two Jews in a crew of several hundred.

A giant aircraft carrier like the Saratoga, which is Kaprow's base ship, may have 30 or more Jews in a crew of 5,000.

On average, Jews comprise about one percent of the naval forces, and there are 16 Jewish chaplains serving them under the aegis of the Jewish Welfare Board's Chaplains Council.

A service of the Jewish Community Centres Association of North America, the Jewish Welfare Board's Chaplains Council is the official agency responsible for providing for the needs of Jewish personnel in all branches of the armed services.

"I am a frequent flyer on helicopters," Kaprow stated recently. "I fly once each week on the average and see as many Jews as I can throughout the battle group. I do it because I can see the joy in their faces when they have a chance to meet a rabbi in uniform."

Praise the Lord and pass the ammunition.

JWV sending food and Bibles

WASHINGTON (JTA)

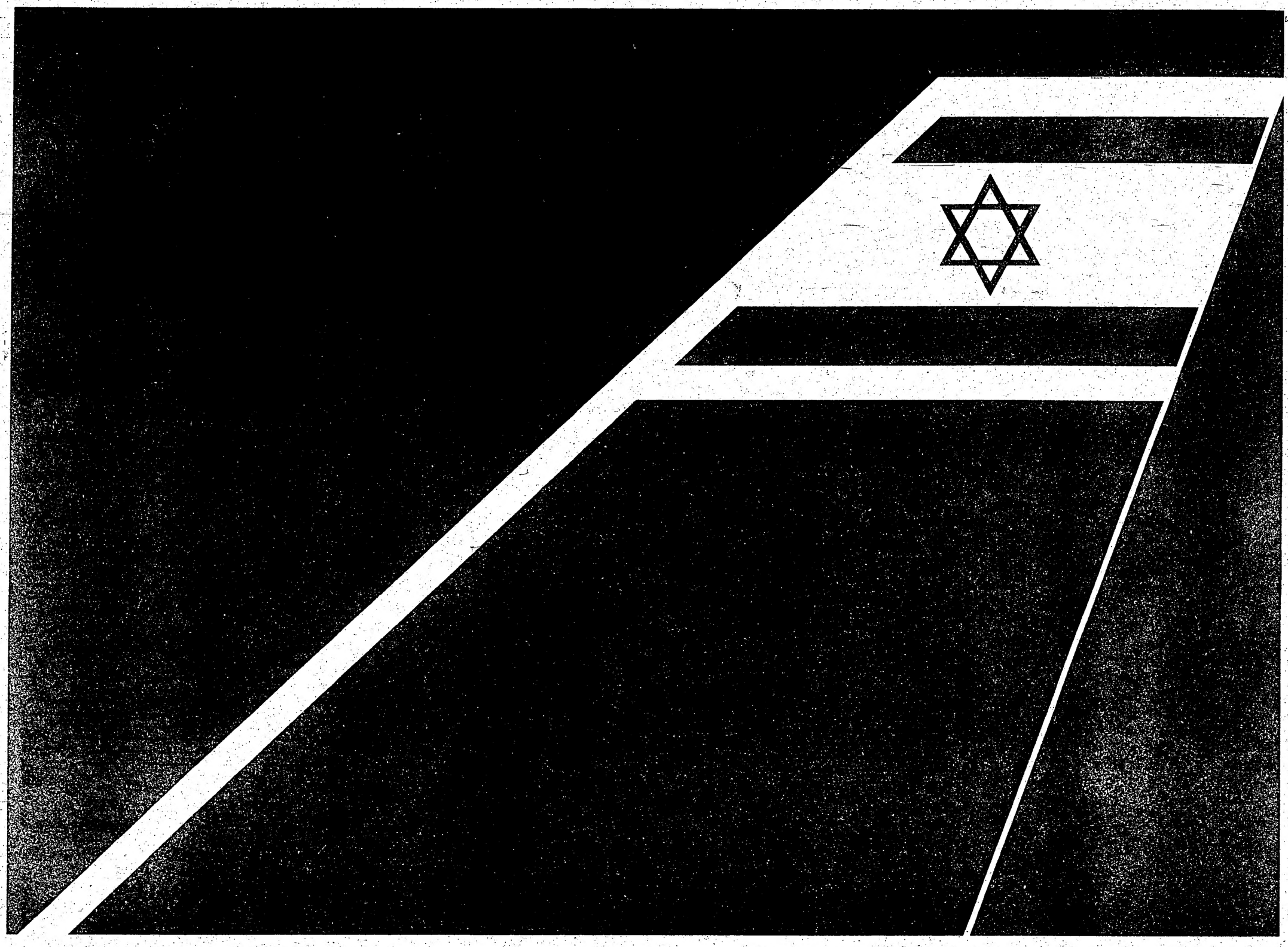
So that all Jewish men and women serving in Saudi Arabia can have a Jewish Bible with them, the Jewish War Veterans of the USA has ordered a special printing of a pocket-size military edition of the Tanach.

One thousand of the Holy Scriptures for Jewish Personnel in the Armed Forces will be shipped to Jewish chaplains serving in Operation Desert Storm for distribution to the servicemen and women around Feb. 15.

JWV paid for a special printing after Lt. Col. Marc Abramowitz of the U.S. Army chaplain centre in Fort Monmouth, N.J., informed the veterans group that the pocket-size Jewish Bibles were last printed in the 1960s and that the military was running out of them. Non-Jewish troops are receiving Bibles from various Christian service organizations.

"This is one of our reasons for being, to provide for the needs of America's servicemen and women by offering comradeship and spiritual support," said Alfred Schwartz, JWV's national commander.

JWV also is sending kosher food and religious articles to the Jewish troops, and snacks, books, games and other items to all troops. It plans a blood drive later this month.



THE SKIES OVER ISRAEL ARE BLUE AND WHITE

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EL AL

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Montreal Gazette editor:

Israelis will not permit Masada to fall again

By
NORMAN WEBSTER

It is never easy to be a Jew and an Israeli, but there are times when it must be especially hard. Right now, for one. Once again, without doing anything except continuing to exist, Israel finds itself in the sights of an enemy who vows to pull the trigger.

That, of course, is Saddam Hussein, whose attempt to link his rape of Kuwait with Israel's occupation of the West Bank has gone down surprisingly successfully in some quarters. Somehow, once again, Israel is supposed to solve a problem created by a thuggish dictator. Once again, too, Israel is expected to stay on its leash despite an explicit threat of attack by the thug.

One could pardon the Israelis' cynicism as they survey the Middle East scene. Certainly, they have not treated the Palestinians gently, but are they the gravest offenders?

What of King Hussein, who crushed the Palestinians in Jordan; Hafez Assad of Syria, who massacred them in Lebanon; or even the sainted Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, who kept them penned up for years in Gaza as a cynical weapon against Israel? Yasser Arafat is said never to sleep two nights consecutively in the same bed — and it is not just Israeli assassins whom he fears.

The cynicism deepens at talks of "moral equivalence" between Israel's occupation of slices of Arab land and Iraq's brutal erasure of Kuwait. Israel's conquests came in battle against enemies sworn to drive it and its people into the sea, to wipe them off the map and out of history. Iraq's move into Kuwait was the violation of a fellow Arab state and ally — one, indeed, which had heavily financed Saddam Hussein's ruinous war with Iran.

Getting close to Saddam can be dangerous, as former acquaintances have found to their cost. His record is littered with betrayals and executions.

He seems a man with a limitless capacity for cruelty. He has slain colleagues with his own hand, made disgusting torture a matter of state policy, brutalized his neighbors, waged chemical war on his own citizens, and explicitly threatened his enemies with chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. The fact that such a man has become a hero to many Arabs makes its own appalling statement.

Can anyone doubt that he would have used nuclear weapons against Iran if he had them available? Can anyone doubt that he would be ready to use them against Israel (a small country horrifyingly vulnerable even to that Model-T of the nuclear age, a Hiroshima-type bomb)? You don't have to foam at the mouth or chew the carpet to be a psychopath.

This is why the stand against Saddam is so crucial. If not checked now, he poses an enormous threat to the world's peace and order. For Israel has made it plain that it will not sit quietly by as a sworn enemy prepares its destruction.

In 1981, Israeli pilots took out a French-built nuclear reactor near Baghdad. The nations of the world gasped, then roared in outrage — although many were secretly applauding.

The need to strike first to ensure survival seems almost to be programmed into modern Israel. When Israeli cadets become soldiers, they repeat the words of Elāsar Ben Yair, the Jewish commander who exhorted his garrison to commit suicide at Masada in 73 CE rather than submit to the legions of Rome.

"Let us go out of the world, together with our children and our wives, in a state of freedom," he declared. "Let us leave our enemies with an example which shall cause their astonishment at our death, and their admiration of our hardiness therein." And they did.

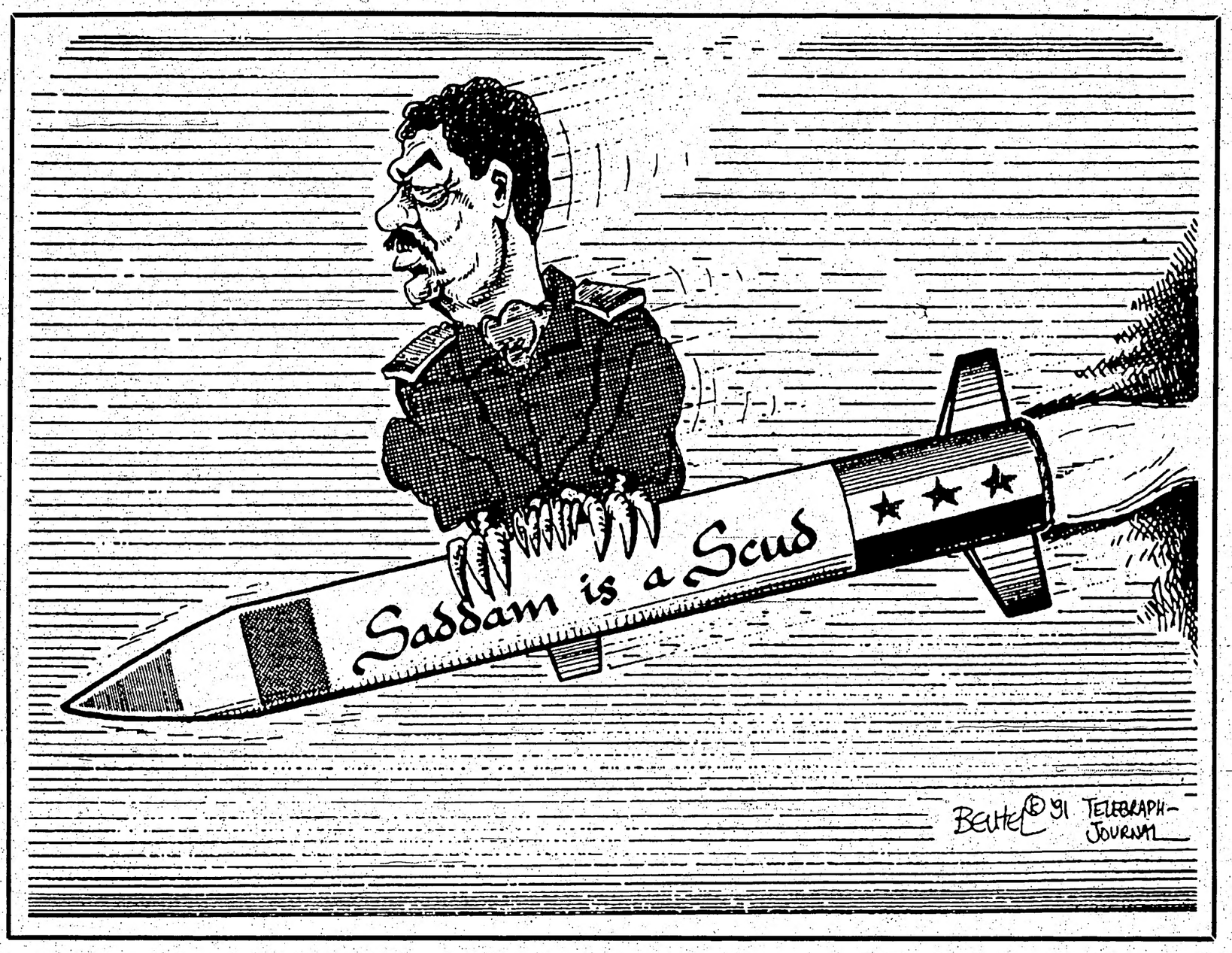
What is important is that Masada has been updated. Far from contemplating mass suicide, today's Jews are saying: never again.

So when a Saddam Hussein says (as did Hitler) that he will wipe them out, they will not wait for it to happen. If necessary they will strike again, and again, at the weapons which could bring the new Holocaust — though each sortie will be more perilous, less certain of success, more difficult to bring off without, perhaps, using Israel's own ultimate weapon.

They have seen the aid that Americans, French, Italians, British, Germans, even Canadians (Gerald Bull) — whether governments, companies or individuals — have given Saddam in the past. They will rely on none but themselves. They will do whatever is necessary.

Masada shall not fall again.

Norman Webster is the editor of the Montreal Gazette. This column, originally published Jan. 12, is reprinted with the permission of the Gazette.



Jewish soldiers wonder if they can keep kosher

By
JAY LECHTMAN

Lt.-Cmdr. Victor Stiebel keeps a duffel bag packed in his Baltimore home. He's ready physically, if not mentally, to leave for Saudi Arabia with a day's notice.

The 32-year-old Navy doctor hopes "there is room in my bag for my tallis and tefillin," he said.

He also hopes that enough space exists within the extraordinary strictures of Operation Desert Storm for kashrut-observant servicemen.

At Bethesda Naval Hospital, near the Jewish communities of Washington and Baltimore, Stiebel has no trouble keeping kosher as an active-duty serviceman.

Should he be shipped out, however, he and other Jewish servicemen in the United States worry about their ability to observe this tenet of Jewish law while serving in a military that doesn't officially provide for them, and in an Islamic nation intolerant of other faiths.

The defence department doesn't provide kosher alternatives to its standard military rations, called Meals-Ready-to-Eat, or MREs. But the military does allow servicemen to provide for their own "separate rations," said Lt.-Col. Rick Oborn, a department spokesman.

"The bottom line, in terms of department of defence regulations, is that we're not going to do anything special for a small number of people," he said.

However, according to officials with the U.S. military overseas, kosher basic staples can be provided for Jewish servicemen in the Persian Gulf through its own food service operations, if they are requested through a chaplain or food service officer, said Col. David Peterson, head of chaplains for the military's central command in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

So far, no Jewish personnel have requested kosher rations, apart from High Holy Day meals and "other times when they have wanted to keep kosher for special occasions," Col. Peterson said in a telephone interview from Riyadh. "If we do have a serviceman who wants to keep kosher 100 per cent of the time, however, we can do it."

Furthermore, "anytime we want extra, we can get special kosher food from the JWB (Jewish Chaplain's Council of the Jewish Community Centers Association of North America), when we request it," he said.

The chaplain's council is the U.S. government-accredited agency overseeing the religious and spiritual needs of Jewish military personnel.

"There is no problem with active-duty servicemen," said David Lapp, the council's director, adding that only Jewish reservists at home have expressed concern over keeping kosher in Saudi Arabia.

But Stiebel, who has raised concerns about the ability to keep kosher in the desert, is on active-duty with the Navy.

After discussing the needs of Jewish servicemen with representatives of the U.S. military Chief of Chaplain's office in Washington, Rabbi Lapp believes those concerns to be unfounded, he said.

The JWB is expecting a Jewish chaplain's report on the status of Jewish servicemen in the Persian Gulf shortly, Rabbi Lapp said.

Additionally, he asserted that vegetarian portions of the MREs would be acceptable to kashrut-observant soldiers, even if they don't "taste like something you're going to buy in Lou Siegel's," a kosher restaurant in New York City, he said.

Despite these assurances, Stiebel and others remain skeptical.

The military and the Chaplain's Council have given contradictory and often confusing messages about the ability to keep kosher in Saudi Arabia, they say, and several have taken the matter into their own hands — trying to find ways to provide for their own needs.

"It's nice that the chaplain over there says it's OK, but I'm concerned that the Pentagon says it doesn't care, or that it doesn't know, or that there are no channels for it to get done," Stiebel said. "If it was that easy to get kosher food, I don't think any of these issues would be coming up."

And there appears to be valid reasons for the skepticism of kashrut-observant soldiers.

Col. Peterson said Jewish servicemen can receive kosher meals in Saudi Arabia, at the same time that a major Orthodox Jewish organization has received word that the military has no formal means to provide those meals.

He also argued that no "100 per cent kosher-keeping servicemen" are on duty in Saudi Arabia, while several of his subordinates said they are certain that the opposite is true.

And at least one military chaplian and the JWB Chaplain's Council assert that some MREs are kosher, while the military itself and several other chaplains insist that none meet the standards of kashrut.

According to the Orthodox Jewish organization Agudas Israel of America, "There is no formal mechanism within the military to get kosher food," said Washington representative Abba Cohen, after speaking with representatives of the military and the federal government.

Jewish servicemen have apparently been able to obtain kosher food informally without apparent problems, until now, Cohen and others suggested.

On military bases or ships here or abroad, individual arrangements with a chaplain or a mess sergeant were usually enough to meet dietary restrictions.

Also, during past conflicts the military had an obligation to provide for the needs of Jews drafted into service, Cohen said.

Contrary to Col. Peterson's assertion, several military officials have estimated that between 30 and 100 kashrut-observant servicemen are on duty.

"The fact is, we do have guys over there who are kosher," said one Jewish army officer, who asked not to be identified. "They haven't brought it up because they assume that it is not available. Or they have been in the military long enough to know that it hasn't been available in the past.

"If people knew that it was available," he said, "there would be more guys asking for it."

As to the kashrut of military fare, "There are no kosher MREs and no plans to produce them at the present time," said Jan Finegan, a spokeswoman for the Alexandria, Va.-based Army Materiel Command, which is responsible for the military rations.

"I won't eat anything out of an MRE," said the Jewish army officer, who is kashrut-observant. "One or two are trying to pick apart their MREs, taking a chance that the peanut butter might be kosher."

Stiebel added that "theoretically I couldn't even eat the applesauce, because I don't know where it comes from."

Until these conflicts can be resolved to the satisfaction of the concerned servicemen, they have begun an attempt to secure their own kosher rations, before they are sent overseas.

Mitchell Ackerson, a chaplain with the 2nd and 52nd Air Defence Artillery in Ft. Bragg, N.C., said he has been "trying to find a kosher substitute ration for those troops who do or would prefer to keep kosher."

He has been asking kosher food companies — including B. Manischewitz Co. and two Canadian firms that specialize in kosher pre-packaged and dried camping foods — about producing ready-to-eat kosher meals.

(Copyright Baltimore Jewish Times)

M-T

World

Solidarity tours planned

European Jews rally behind Israel

PARIS (JTA) —

Shocked, angered and fearful, Jews all over Europe have reacted to the Iraqi missile attacks on Israel like a single family rallying in support of a close relative in peril.

They have established emergency community "hot lines" to exchange the latest information. Overseas lines have been jammed with calls to Israel.

The Israeli embassies in Paris and other capitals have been flooded with calls from Jews offering to volunteer to fight in the Israeli army.

The umbrella organizations of French Jewry, both religious and secular, have announced solidarity tours to Israel for which a thousand people already have signed up.

In Rome, a staff member of the Italian Jewish community headquarters in Rome said, "We are in a state of shock, we are in a state of emergency, but as far as possible, things are working normally."

In Luxembourg, the 12-nation European Community issued a strong condemnation of Iraq's "unprovoked and entirely unnecessary" attack on Israel. It appealed to Israel at the same time "to stay out of the war."

The Brussels-based E.C.'s condemnation of the missile attack on Israel was released in Luxembourg apparently because Luxembourg's foreign minister, Jacques Poos, currently holds the rotating chairmanship of the E.C. Council of Ministers.

The 12 E.C. countries accused Saddam Hussein of "seeking to draw Israel into the Gulf conflict by a cynical and deliberate provocation."

But the statement expressed hope "that Israel would not be drawn into the conflict."

It acknowledged, however, that "Israel's right to security constitutes one of the fundamental principles of the policy of the Community and its member states in the Middle East."

France, a key member of the European Community, issued its own statement in the same vein Friday. President Francois Mitterrand telephoned President Chaim Herzog of Israel to express France's and his personal sympathy with Israel.

Nevertheless, the chief rabbi of France, Joseph Sitruk, has demanded a stronger French commitment on Israel's behalf.

His sermon, broadcast on the Jewish radio station and read in most synagogues Friday night, urged France's 700,000 Jews to mobilize on Israel's behalf.

Jean Kahn, president of CRIF, the representative council of French Jewish organizations, said he would ask Mitterrand to meet with a delegation of Jewish leaders at the Elysee Palace.

On Sunday night, in a nationally broadcast address, Mitterrand stressed that Israel is fully entitled to retaliate for the Iraqi missile attacks. He praised Israel's restraint and Jerusalem's refusal to "fall into Saddam Hussein's trap."

The impact of the Iraqi missiles was felt almost as strongly in Paris' old Jewish quarter, the "Pletzel," as it was in Tel Aviv.

On the Rue des Rosiers in the heart of the quarter, lights burned all night Friday at Jo Goldenberg's kosher deli. It was there in August 1982 that six people were killed and 22 injured in a terrorist bomb attack.

Elsewhere, people gathered in knots at small cafes.

Italy's state telephone company reported calls between Italy and Israel shot up 20 per cent after the first missile attack early Friday morning.

Many Italian Jews, including Rome's chief rabbi, Elio Toaff, have family in Israel. Toaff expressed deep concern for his children and grandchildren in an interview published Friday in Il Messaggero.

Italian Jews are also deeply troubled by the sudden upsurge of graffiti in the wake of the Middle East war, which though aimed against Israel and Zionism is patently anti-Semitic.

The hundreds of thousands of Italians who have taken to the streets in peace demonstrations have directed their wrath primarily against the United States. But a pervasive pro-Palestinian attitude is detectable among the demonstrators.

The French authorities, while genuinely sympathetic to Israel for having suffered missiles attacks, are bristling over suggestions in Jerusalem that French participation in the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq is less than wholehearted because France wants to enhance its position in the Arab world.

The French media have given wide coverage to Israeli criticism, especially that voiced by Prime Minister's Yitzhak Shamir's top aide, Yossi Ben-Aharon, and accusations by Eliahu Ben-Elissar of Likud, who chairs the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee.

Ben-Elissar charged France was responsible for the missiles that struck Israel. Foreign Minister Roland Dumas personally denounced that as "a blatant untruth," pointing out that SCUD missiles are Soviet-made.

The French foreign ministry also took issue with Ben-Aharon's allegation that France would prefer Iraq to emerge from the war not badly scathed so it could repay the debts it owes France.

A presidential spokesman stressed that the French air raids on Iraqi targets in Kuwait were no less risky than those mounted by the other powers.

France has restricted its participation to striking at Iraqi targets within Kuwait. The cabinet pointed out that the French targets were assigned to it by the coalition's high command.

A government spokesman said France will not necessarily limit its air action to Kuwaiti territory.

The French have expelled 13 Iraqi diplomats and an undisclosed number of Iraqi citizens, apparently because of fear of terrorist attacks.

The French government also must take into consideration the powerful anti-war sentiment which is not confined to anti-establishment fringe groups.

Soviet crackdown said bad for Jews

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

The Soviet crackdown in Lithuania and the other Baltic states is bad news for Jews, whether they intend to stay in the Soviet or make aliya to Israel, said Joyce Eklove, co-chairman of the Ontario Soviet Jewry committee.

"I'm very frightened," said Eklove. "One thing like this may lead to others. Do we know if President Gorbachev can maintain control? Now the Gulf war has started. The world is in chaos and chaos is never good for Jews."

While deploring the loss of life in the Lithuanian crackdown and other incidents in the Baltic states, Les Scheininger, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, said it was not in the interest of the Canadian Jewish community to insert itself in that explosive situation.

"This is a complex situation to which there is no simple solution," he said. "Let us hope that it will be resolved through the principles of glasnost and perestroika."

Soviet olim from the Baltic states make up about four per cent of the total, said a report from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Soviet Jews never trusted the Soviet Union's process of democratization, said David Harris, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee.

"For the last 18 months they have been voting with their feet. They've been telling us that they have little confidence in the future and in the process of liberalization," he said. "They were telling us that even glasnost and perestroika would prove transitory and that the country's basic instincts were conservative and anti-democratic. Events in Lithuania only help make the point."

Emanuelius Zingeris is the leader of the Lithuanian Jewish community and the head of the democratically elected Lithuanian parliament's foreign affairs committee.

He is one of the five officials named by Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis to form a government in exile.

Zingeris, also known as Zinger, fled Lithuania just hours ahead of the tanks and is now in Stockholm, where he is on a hunger strike, which he will continue until the crisis recedes, said Dan Mariaschin, director of international affairs for B'nai Brith International.

According to Mariaschin, Zingeris met with the U.S ambassador to Stockholm and gave him a letter from the Lithuanian president asking for American help.

Zingeris is also a member of the presidium of the Vaad, the national confederation of Jewish organizations in the Soviet Union.

The Vaad's second annual convention is scheduled to take place Jan. 21-25 in Moscow and over 1,000 Soviet Jewish activists, and 100 leaders from around the world, are expected to attend.

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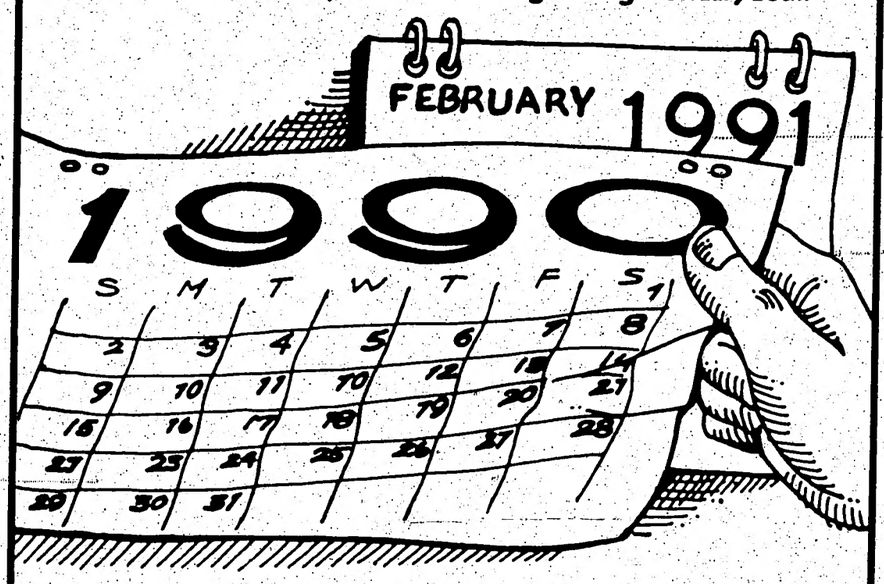

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Organization waives financial supplement

JNF helps to keep housing costs down

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

The Jewish National Fund is willingly foregoing an annual income of $25 million to $30 million from land earmarked for residential and related construction in order to keep the cost of building houses for Soviet immigrants as low as possible.

JNF Chairman Moshe Rivlin is positively cheerful over the prospects, although it means launching a $100 million fund-raising campaign overseas to make up the shortfall.

The point is that immigrant housing is being built far more rapidly and cheaply than would otherwise have been the case.

The decision was made by the Lands Council, which has turned 40 building sites over to contractors for immigrant housing. JNF's bulldozers and other earth-moving machinery are preparing the land for the builders.

The Lands Council is chaired by Ariel Sharon, minister of construction and housing, with Rivlin serving as the council's deputy chairman. JNF accounts for 49 per cent of the council's membership.

"This pace of home-building would be inconceivable were it not for the fact that almost all the land in Israel is held by JNF or the government, to be used for national purposes," Rivlin said in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The Lands Council has been meeting every two to three weeks with Sharon.

Decisions have been made under the pressure of aliya that in the normal course of business "would have taken years," the JNF chairman said. "This is a real revolution."

Following the council's new, streamlined procedures, the planning stages of residential projects are pushed through the various national and local statutory boards while JNF gets on with the initial infrastructure work.

JNF works through subcontractors but supervises every site itself, Rivlin explained.

Moreover, JNF agreed earlier to assume one-third of the rapidly rising land development costs. To hasten the process, it agreed to lay out money without waiting for bureaucratic endorsements.

Normally, tracts of land released by the Lands Council for housing bring annual proceeds of up to $100 million, of which JNF received between a quarter and a third, a substantial supplement to its income.

But that has been waived to keep immigrant-related housing costs down.

A world conference of JNF leaders in Jerusalem last month resolved to launch a three-year worldwide campaign to raise $100 million, Rivlin explained.

The constituent organizations around the world will be asked to double their normal contributions.

Rivlin said he was confident JNF's supporters will meet the challenge. He stressed that JNF fund raising is in no way connected with the "Operation Exodus" campaign of the United Jewish Appeal, which aims to help Israel absorb the massive aliya from the Soviet Union.

"There are enough Jews out there who understand the critical importance of land and infrastructure in the entire immigrant absorption context," Rivlin said.

Moshe Rivlin

Over 1,000 arrived in Canada in 1990

Lobby group helps Soviets here

—By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL —

The Action Committee for Soviet Jews was formed in December, 1989, mainly to lobby the Canadian government to make it easier for Soviet Jews to migrate to this country.

Most of the committee members are Soviet Jews well-established in Canada, who were alarmed by reports of growing anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union.

The situation has improved somewhat. Soviets may apply as independent immigrants, but JIAS officials say the process is still slow because the Canadian embassy in Moscow is short-staffed and priority is given to family re-unification cases.

The numbers of Soviet Jews estimated by JIAS to have immigrated to Canada in 1990 was 1,000-1,200, with perhaps 125-150 settling in Montreal.

During the past year, the number of Soviet Jewish visitors to Montreal, who claim refugee status or who simply have decided not to go back, has become significant.

Spokesman Edit Kuper said the committee is aware of about 60 Soviets in Montreal who arrived in this way and who are awaiting decisions on their claims. The committee has shifted its focus to pressing the Jewish community leadership to help them.

Many of these people have little money, and the committee has taken the responsibility of providing them with the basics of life: food, shelter and clothing. As well, they are trying to give help — where applicable — in finding a job, learning French or English, in getting in touch with immigration lawyers and, generally, in easing their integration and offering them a place to turn to.

The committee also sees landed immigrants whose families are having difficulty fulfilling their sponsorship.

The committee is trying to interest synagogues and schools in donating food, clothing or money in a "boat people"-type project.

"We have done all this without staff or funds," Kuper said. "We feel we have done the work of the established agencies. The task is getting too heavy for us alone."

The committee currently has about 25 volunteers, the great majority being Soviets living here for 10-15 years. Some are of Polish origin more recently settled in Montreal, and a few are Canadians.

Kuper said a baby has been born among the refugee claimants. Unfortunately, its parents are in that category of would-be refugees who are not entitled to Medicare, let alone to work or receive welfare.

"Mark" is one of those who came here as a visitor (his 80-year-old father and his second wife have been living in Montreal for 10 years) and has applied for landed immigrant status.

A construction worker from Kiev, he and his wife, a nurse, arrived in April with just $400 on a one-year Soviet travel visa. His father is not able to support them, and Mark has been doing under-the-table odd jobs to keep going, but has had no work in two months.

He says he does not want to go back because he endured anti-Semitic taunts from people on the street in the Ukraine.

He is now "in the system," and expects to wait another seven months for his hearing.

Mark said his Soviet neighbors, a couple with young children, are in worse condition than he and his wife, and often go hungry.

"Our efforts do not conflict with Operation Exodus, which we wholeheartedly support. These Jews are here and they have asked for help," Kuper said. The community, she continued, should recognize that Soviet Jews are fleeing economic hardship, political instability and anti-Semitism and are taking any route out of the country they can.

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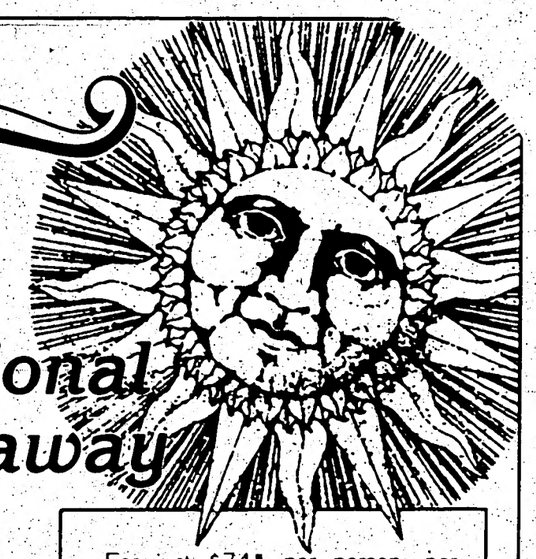

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Soviet Jewry

JIAS helping settlers, not visitors

Soviet immigrants' status raises concerns in Montreal

By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL — The new phenomenon of Soviet Jews coming to Canada as visitors and claiming refugee status has created the issue of who within the Montreal Jewish community should be responsible for these people's welfare.

A group composed mainly of Soviet immigrants well established in Montreal, called the Action Committee for Soviet Jewry, has been formed to provide the newcomers with such practical assistance as food, clothing, temporary housing and furnishings. The group also raises money through synagogues and other private sources, in the absence, it says, of such support from the organized community.

The volunteer committee, headed by Dr. Maria Rosenfeld and her husband Isaac Wierba, recently opened an office at 6767 Cote des Neiges Rd., in donated space.

Committee spokesman Edit Kuper says the group is doing the job that should rightly be done by Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS), but cannot, because it is not receiving funds for the integration of Soviet Jews coming directly to Canada from either Allied Jewish Community Services (AJCS) or the National Budgeting Conference.

The committee says it is remitting to JIAS any funds it raises for distribution among the Soviets. Five synagogues have agreed to help sponsor these people already, Kuper said.

The charge that the organized community is ignoring this latest influx of Soviets was categorically denied by both JIAS Montreal director Joel Moss and AJCS executive director John Fishel. Neither, however, disputed that no community dollars are going to those Soviet refugee claimants or visitors who have stayed on and not decided what sort of status to apply for.

"JIAS has no money for people who come here as visitors," Moss said. This is true for any Jews who come here that way, he said, and no differentiation is made with Soviets. They will receive counselling from JIAS, however. Those who come as immigrants are regarded as showing a will to set permanent roots here, Moss said.

Money raised through Combined Jewish Appeal continues to go toward the resettlement of the dwindling number of Soviets who came to Montreal via Vienna or Rome, having left the Soviet Union on exit visas for Israel, Moss said. They arrive here as landed immigrants, either sponsored by JIAS or relatives.

Among the Soviets who have come here as visitors — an avenue made possible relatively recently by glasnost — there are three main circumstances, Moss explained. The first are those who came before Sept. 1 when the Canadian government eliminated the "designated class" of refugee for Soviets and Eastern Europeans. They make their claims in a "third safe country."

With the co-operation of Canadian government officials, JIAS arranged for about 35 Soviets who came to Montreal as visitors to apply under this class through the Canadian consulate in Buffalo, N.Y., and they are waiting in Montreal. Moss said they are in Canada legally on visitor's visas, but nearly all have probably stayed away longer than their Soviet visitors' visa permitted, Moss said, having been here more than six months.

These people cannot work legally and are not eligible for welfare or Medicare, because — technically — they are considered to be in that third safe country, although living here. Many of these people are living hand-to-mouth, according to Kuper, and are the most serious concern of the Action Committee.

In a letter sent to "the leaders of the Jewish community of Montreal," the committee claims some are hungry and homeless.

Moss said other Soviet visitors make a refugee claim within Canada, usually immediately after their arrival. They are able to cope somewhat better because they are entitled to a subsistence allowance from the government and to Medicare, and later, to work.

They may wait up to six months for a preliminary hearing, Moss said, and, if they pass that stage, perhaps another year to 18 months before a final decision is made.

Moss said those applying under the designated class have a longer wait, but traditionally have had a high rate of acceptance, at least among Jews from the communist countries.

Whether such Jews' claims to be refugees will be upheld in light of the move toward democracy is a new frontier, said Moss, noting that in Ontario one Jewish would-be refugee recently lost his case.

Then there are the unknown numbers of Soviet visitors in Montreal, who have decided not to go back, but have not taken any steps to immigrate here or elsewhere. These people are not seen by JIAS, Moss said, unless they want information on emigrating to Israel.

"The community is saying there is a limit to what it can afford," said Moss, who applauds the effort of the Action Committee to fill the gap.

AJCS's Fishel denied that the community leadership is deliberately refusing to assist these Soviets as a disincentive to their coming to Canada, rather than going to Israel.

Fishel also reiterated that community funds are limited, and though there is only a rather small number of Soviets in Montreal, a precedent would be set which could be very costly if the numbers escalate. Helping people now also risks encouraging "long-term dependency," he said.

Fishel, who met recently with the Action committee, congratulated the group acting in the "self-help tradition" that built the Montreal Jewish community.

He does question the committee's "blanket" assertions that these Soviets are hungry and homeless. "I wonder if this is fact or hype."

TELETHON FOR OLIM

A barbershop quartet of professional immigrant musicians perform on Israel Radio as part of the telethon to get volunteers to help new immigrants. From left are Alexander Spibak from the Soviet Union, Yossi Lavi, a native Israeli, Alexander Hansberg from the U.S.S.R. and Lior Smith from the United States. [IPPA photo]

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A Lawyer Replies...

By JOHN SYRTASH

JOHN SYRTASH is a Toronto lawyer whose preferred area of practice is family law. His advice is in general terms only and not meant to replace a personal consultation with a lawyer. Questions can be mailed to Syrtash at Poole Milligan Hutchinson Syrtash, Suite 300, 2040 Yonge St., Toronto M4S 1Z9.

QUESTION: My husband has often threatened to take our children without my knowledge out of the country during heated arguments we have had. I truly feel that one day he may carry out this threat. How does the law protect me?

ANSWER: If you are separated, then you should obtain the benefit of a custody order. Once you have such an order, then under the Hague Convention's International Child Abduction Legislation, child abduction by one parent can be stopped with great efficacy if properly applied.

The aim of the law was to re-establish situations which existed before the unlawful removal of one child into a jurisdiction of another state or province or country and to allow the spouses to assert their claims in the jurisdiction to which the child is returned.

In Ontario, as in most provinces in Canada, you would call the local Attorney General or Support and Custody Enforcement Agency that handles child abductions and file your custody order with that agency.

If you could locate your husband then that agency would conatct its sister organization in the country or state to which your husband had fled and it would initiate legal proceedings, free of charge, in that other country to have the child returned under their laws.

Among the countries that are signatory to the Convention are Australia, Canada, France, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Austria.

Where the legal requirements are met, the system adopted by this legislation has often proven to be very fast and effective to secure the return of abducted children.

In one particular case a child was illegally taken to Great Britain by the father.

The mother who had custody pursuant to an Ontario Court Order contacted the Attorney General of Ontario, which contacted the relevant authority in England. Lawyers were hired by the sister agency in Great Britain and an English Court ordered the child returned to the mother.

The father returned to Ontario and was later charged with child abduction under Canada's Criminal Code.

Upon conviction, he received six months in reformatory plus three years probation. As one of the terms of the Order he was ordered to reimburse the mother for all the expenses she incurred in securing the return of the child.

Although the conviction works, the first step is however to secure a custody order. If your husband leaves with the children, particularly if he goes to the United States where the requirement for passports is not obligatory, then it may well be difficult to invoke the jurisdiction and the legal avenues that are open to a woman who has the benefit of the convention's legislation.

My advice to people whose marriages are ending fast and where there is a serious threat of abduction is to contemplate, if at all possible, a quick custody order in the event that an abduction is likely.

I have already written in this column about what may happen if a child is abducted and taken to Israel. Under Israeli law there is now recent authority to suggest that although it is not signatory to the convention, the Courts there are likely to return a child to Canada if it can be shown that there is an outstanding Canadian Court Order that was recently disobeyed.

However, the cost of retaining Israeli counsel and making the trip to Israel for these purposes can be quite high. Based upon recent case law it is clear that the Canadian Crown prosecutor must show that the spouse who absconds with the child must have actually been aware that there was a court order before the court will convict such an individual on kidnapping or child abduction.

It is therefore critical that people with custody orders should prove that their spouses are served or given a copy of the order in front of witnesses so that there can be no doubt in the mind of any court, including any court in Israel, that the party absconding with the child was aware of the Canadian court order.

Julia Koschitzky

Institute planned for UIA Women

TORONTO — The Annual Leadership Institute of the National Women's Division, United Israel Appeal of Canada, will be held in Vancouver on Sunday and Monday, Jan. 27 and 28.

The Institute will bring together 70 leaders of Women's Divisions from across Canada, associated with UJA, CJA and UIA campaigns. It will be chaired by Sheila Engel of Toronto, UIA Women's Division chairman.

"This is the key event in our annual calendar," Engel said. "It is a chance for the leadership of women's campaigns from large, medium and smaller communities in Canada to meet, discuss and learn, and focus on the main challenges facing us."

Engel said last year's Institute in Ottawa had a significant role in creating awareness about Operation Exodus.

"This year," she added, "we are facing a more complex situation, with many demands on available funds. We'll deal with this issue, as well as campaign planning and strategies."

She pointed out, however, that due to the breaking news in the war against Iraq, and its far-reaching implications, the program's focus may change to reflect these developments.

The Institute's central theme as had been planned is the tremendous challenge facing Israel in absorbing the Soviet immigrants, whose numbers have exceeded all previous projections.

Participating in this session will be Dr. Allen Pollack, an expert on Soviet Jewry; Sheila Arkin, national chairman of the Russian absorption committee of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel, and Reuven Rosenfelder, UIA director of communications.

Julia Koschitzky, national president of the UIA, will highlight the Canadian response to Exodus.

Another session will be devoted to issues facing Canadian Jewry, with Prof. Irving Abella, noted historian and community leader, and Dr. Michael Elterman, chairman of the Western Region of Canadian Jewish Congress.

Walter Hess, UIA's executive vice-president will address the funding process of Canadian Jewry, which will be followed by a group exercise in priority-setting.

Working sessions on campaign strategies will be facilitated by Lisa Morrison, Toronto UJA associate campaign director and director of the Women's campaign, and Lesley Jacobson, director of the Calgary campaign.

The hosting committee for the Institute, on behalf of the greater Vancouver Jewish Federation, is chaired by Carol Oreck.

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Canada

Jewish group tells Belanger-Campeau commission:

Minorities must have equal standing in new Quebec

By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL — Whatever relationship Quebec arrives at with the rest of Canada, the Jewish community intends to stay here, but it does want assurances that minorities have an equal place in Quebec, stressed a Jewish community delegation at the Belanger-Campeau commission studying the political and constitutional future of Quebec.

"Although the Jewish community is not politically monolithic, the great majority of its members are in favor of a constitutional agreement where important and significant ties would link Quebec with the rest of Canada," said Lucien Benarroch, vice-chairman of the Tripartite Committee on the Constitution, struck by Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Allied Jewish Community Services (AJCS) and the Communaute Sepharade du Quebec (CSQ).

"It is obvious that we are open to change and to reforms to the present federal system."

He added, however, that a "total elimination of constitutional ties with the rest of the country would find little support within the Jewish community."

Quebec Jews understand and sympathize with francophones' wish to preserve their language, but do not accept any measure to protect French that infringes on freedom of expression, Benarroch said.

The delegation said it opposes the notwithstanding clause in the rights charter and wants the government to recognize the growing multicultural nature of the province and be more vigorous in its opposition to racism.

Victor Goldbloom

Committee chairman Joel Pinsky emphasized the Jews' deep roots in Quebec, going back more than two centuries.

In response to a question from Parti Quebecois MNA Jacques Brassard on what specific constitutional changes the community wants to see, committee vice-chairman Victor Goldbloom said the delegation did not feel it had the competence to offer a constitutional formula.

He said the main purpose in presenting a brief to the commission was to signal the community's intention to remain here and to express its desire that, through the democratic process, respectful dialogue and goodwill, such a formula will be found.

Questioned also by Liberal MNA Christiane Pelchat for a model of confederation acceptable to the community, Goldbloom stated that any formula concluded between persons of goodwill and maintaining Quebec as an "open society with equality of opportunity" would be acceptable to the Jewish community.

Brassard also wanted to know how the Jewish community would react if Quebecers chose sovereignty, maintaining an economic association with Canada.

Goldbloom reiterated: "We are here to stay."

Benarroch was similarly vague in response to a question from Centrale de l'Enseignement du Quebec vice-president Rosette Cote on how Quebec could protect the French culture without the notwithstanding clause.

Benarroch replied that Jews have protected their language and culture over 5,000 years — without a country — through education both at home and in their own schools.

He suggested as well that Quebec be more open to immigration from francophone countries.

Goldbloom commented that rights enshrined in a constitution must have an "absolute and general application" for all citizens and groups and a simple majority of the National Assembly should not be enough to override them.

Commenting on the "painful exodus" of young Jews from Quebec, Equality Party leader Robert Libman asked what the main reasons for their leaving was and how it can be stopped.

Pinsky said the government and other organizations in Quebec should make Jews and other minorities feel welcome by such concrete means as increasing their representation in the civil service.

Goldbloom remarked that there is a perception among minorities, especially youth, that there is not equality in hiring and advancement.

Goldbloom later told the CJN that the delegation had not taken a stronger federalist position because, if the community is committed to continuing in Quebec, "we cannot allow ourselves to be perceived as antagonistic to the majority of this province...We have to be prepared to adapt to the decisions this society makes."

At the same time, he said the tripartite committee had tried to balance that with the feeling in the community that "Canada should stay together in a structure as close as possible to the present one."

Other members of the delegation appearing before the commission were: Salomon Oziel, president of the CSQ; Maxine Sigman, president of AJCS; and Goldie Hershon, chairman of CJC, Quebec Region.

The tripartite committee, which submitted a written brief to the commission in November, was composed of 55 persons from the religious, cultural, professional, business and organizational spheres of the community.

Carol Pollard to visit Canada

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO — The fight to help Jonathan Pollard is coming to Canada.

Pollard's sister Carol will be coming to Montreal and Toronto to "raise public consciousness" of what she considers the unjust manner in which he has been treated by the United States' justice system.

She will be speaking in Montreal on Sunday, Jan. 27 at 9.30 a.m. at Young Israel Chomedey and at 7.30 p.m. at Beth Ora synagogue, and on Monday, Jan. 28 to Jewish leaders at the Canadian Jewish Congress building and in the evening at Beth Israel Beth Aaron Congregation.

On Tuesday, Jan. 29, she will be speaking in Toronto at Shaarei Tefillah Congregation at 8 pm.

As well, she will be speaking to the media and to interested private individuals in both cities.

Pollard was sentenced to life imprisonment without possibility of parole for passing American military secrets to Israel. This is the harshest penalty anyone has received for giving information to an ally, says Elaine Zeitz, who is co-ordinating Carol Pollard's trip.

As well, he is serving his sentence under extremely harsh conditions.

"He is in solitary confinement in the most maximum security prison in the U.S. (Marion, Ill.), is allowed out of his cell for only one hour a day, and is allowed only four 15-minute telephone calls a week, which are restricted to his parents, lawyer and sister."

Visitors, even pastoral visits, and correspondence are restricted.

Information provided in a media release indicates that there are questions as well about the impartiality of the judge, about the role of then-secretary of state Caspar Weinberger, and the plea-bargaining that avoided a trial, allegedly in return for proper medical care for Pollard's wife Anne, and a more lenient sentence for him.

Neither condition was adhered to.

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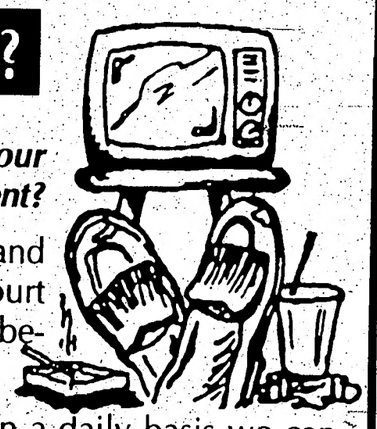

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Non-Jews react to issue

Ross' teachings anger Jews

By
PAUL LUNGEN

MONCTON —

The notoriety spawned by the Malcolm Ross case has caused an emotional reaction among Jews of New Brunswick, who are appalled that the author of Jewish "conspiracy" tracts continues to teach and act as a role model for the province's youth.

It has also prompted non-Jews to stand up against Ross and what he stands for. One such man, Roy Kippers, took issue with Ross' views of the Second World War and the treatment of Jews under the Nazis.

In a lengthy letter to the editor of The Telegraph-Journal, Kippers describes his personal experiences as a youth in wartime Holland.

Roy Kippers

With the Nazi occupation came offensive anti-Semitic propaganda that likened Jews to rats in a gutter, he recalled. The propaganda's central message was that Jews were out to conquer the world and "were not worth living in a civilized country."

Kippers, 67, described how a Jewish family, which had fled Germany before the war, came to live in their neighborhood and how he befriended "a little girl, skinny. . . beautiful braids, soft brown eyes, gentle. Her name was Roetie.

"In 1941 an armored van drove up our street and took the little family away. Never to return.

"Roetie can speak no more, but I can — and by God, I will."

Kippers described his experiences in Vught, a concentration camp in Holland, where Jewish families were torn asunder and sent off "to points east. Points of no return."

He described how a Jew was beaten to death by the SS, using 2 by 4s, and he relates how inmates were murdered by the hundreds.

"I escaped in 1944 so I can speak for innocent Roetie who not just died but was murdered. Roetie, one out of millions.

"And you say, It never happened?"

Kippers said he was prompted to write the moving and angry letter when he read about the desecration of the city's only synagogue last summer and reports of anti-Semitism in the schools.

"I told my wife, 'See, the fascists are working again'."

As a result of his letter, Kippers, who lives in the town of Quispamsis, has been asked to speak to high school students to describe his experiences.

He has received many letters and telephone calls commending his action and has been thanked by New Brunswick Jews for speaking out.

But for Kippers, his reason for doing so is simple: "I always get angry when minorities get spat upon. It's the start of injustices being done. After all, I know what injustice is."

Defamation charges denied

By
JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL —

Secretary of State Gerry Weiner has filed a defence in the British Columbia Supreme Court denying that he defamed Holocaust denier David Irving because Weiner's denunciation of the British writer's Canadian tour was in the interest of the Canadian public and within his ministerial responsibility to protect human rights.

Irving, who spoke in several Canadian cities beginning in Victoria, B.C., Oct. 27, is claiming in the same court that a public written statement made by Weiner Oct. 26 was defamatory.

Weiner counters that the statement was "made honestly and without malice in the discharge of a public duty in the defendant minister's capacity as a minister of the Crown upon a matter of public interest and therefore was an occasion of qualified privilege."

In his Oct. 26 statement, made "both as a private citizen and as the federal minister responsible for human rights," Weiner said he was "extremely disquieted" by Irving's speaking tour.

Weiner said Irving has "given support to and received sponsorship from individuals and organizations whose racist and anti-Semitic credentials are beyond dispute."

Irving's "sympathies and intentions," the statement continued, are "abhorrent to Canadian values and ideals and are an incitement to racism if not a direct promotion of racist attitudes."

Weiner accused Irving of holding "pseudo-historic theories" and "myths and distortions" about the Holocaust. The statement was released to the media under a contract with Canada News Wires Ltd.

In the defence, filed by Vancouver lawyer H.J. Wruck, Weiner "denies that the statement bore or was understood to bear or was capable of bearing or being understood to bear any of the defamatory meanings alleged by the plaintiff (Irving) in his statement of claim by way of innuendo or otherwise."

Weiner says his words were "expressions of opinion. . .a fair and bona fide comment made in good faith and without malice upon a matter of public interest and national importance."

The "qualified privilege" mentioned in the defence refers to the responsibilities of the Secretary of State and the Minister of State for Multiculturalism and Citizenship to uphold human rights and combat racial discrimination. As minister, Wruck argues, Weiner had a "social and moral duty" to make the statement for the information and education of the Canadian public.

Moreover, Irving "invited" Weiner to make the statement because of "the controversial and inflammatory manner in which he expressed his views regarding the Jewish people and the gross exaggeration of the Nazi persecution of Jews and the Holocaust in his lecture tour across Canada and in previous statements made by him during lecture tours and in articles and books written" by Irving.

Neil Drabkin, a special adviser to Weiner, said no trial date has been received.

In his statement of claim filed Nov. 9 (CJN, Dec. 13), Irving alleges Weiner's statement was designed intentionally "to do the reputation of the plaintiff (Irving) the maximum amount of harm, and was malicious and defamatory."

Weiner's claim that he spoke as a cabinet minister "was intended to lend, and did lend, credibility to the personal malicious attack of the defendant."

Irving, who is being represented by Victoria lawyer Doug Christie, is seeking general damages, punitive damages and costs of the action, as well as "prejudicial interest."

Weiner's defence says Irving "gained prominence in relation to the hate propaganda" as a result of his giving evidence on behalf of Ernst Zundel. It maintains that the burden is on Irving to prove he suffered any losses as a consequence of the statement.

Weiner is also asking for costs.

Israel increases education funding

By
JEFF ROSEN

TORONTO —

At a time when world leaders have committed themselves to ending child deaths and child malnutrition by the year 2000, Israel is the only country in the Middle East which has increased its budgetary allocations for health and education.

At the World Summit for Children, held in September 1990, the largest gathering of political leaders ever assembled committed themselves to giving top priority to the "essential needs" of children.

"Children should be able to count on that commitment in good times and in bad — in lean times and in times of plenty, in times of peace and in times of war, in times of recession or in times of steadily advancing prosperity," states UNICEF's annual report, The State of the World's Children 1991. "The mental and physical growth of a child cannot be asked to wait until interest rates fall, or until commodity prices recover, or until after a general election, or until a war is over."

In 1989, Israel allocated 10 per cent of its budget to education, up from eight per cent in 1988. At the same time, other countries in the Middle East held the line, neither increasing nor decreasing their contributions.

In 1988 and 1989 Egypt allocated 12 per cent of its budget to education, while Jordan and Saudi Arabia each allocated 14 per cent.

Meanwhile, Canada's federal government, while stressing its commitment towards education, decreased its contribution from four per cent in 1988 to three per cent in 1989.

At the same time, Canada failed to provide more funds for health care in 1989, allocating six per cent of its budget towards health in both 1988 and 1989. This move was echoed in a number of Middle East countries including Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Kuwait, who held the line in 1989.

Only Israel increased its commitment towards health care in 1989, allocating four per cent of its budget, up from three per cent in 1988. This new level has brought Israel up to the same level as Jordan and above Egypt's three per cent allocation. However, the Israeli government still allocates less on health care than the governments of Iraq (five per cent) and Kuwait (eight per cent).

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Canada

Matlow utilizes skills as Hadassah president

By
CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO —

Esther Matlow, the recently elected president of the Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Canada has the training, experience and motivation to lead the organization to new goals and achievements.

Elected at Hadassah-WIZO's 33rd triennial convention in Vancouver, Matlow has been a member of Toronto's Carmel Chapter for almost four decades. Many of her positions in the organization over the years were directed towards leadership training, education and the use of visual aids.

Trained as a life skills coach at the YWCA a course dealing with groups pertaining to life situations, the new national president says, "Hadassah-WIZO gave me the opportunity to expand my skills."

Born in Toronto, she attended Forest Hill Collegiate where she began to demonstrate her leadership qualities. She served as class president and held other leadership positions and holds a piano diploma from the Toronto Conservatory of Music.

"You are born with innate skills and when you have an opportunity, you must develop those skills." She explains that you can be born with a beautiful voice, but to excel, you must be trained.

"Fortunately, I have been able to direct my skills into avenues that have been beneficial to others and fulfilling to my personal growth. Through participation in an organization such as Hadassah-WIZO, it gives members opportunities and challenges with the types of programs we have in education, leadership, leadership development and public seminars. All of these improve and help an individual grow and translates into their everyday lives."

Matlow was exposed to the work of Hadassah at a very young age. As a child, she recalls accompanying her sister, the late Lillian (Climans) Winton, to the Hadassah bazaars at the Varsity Arena where she watched her sister modelling in the fashion shows.

She was a member of Young Judea and met her husband, Irving Matlow, at a study group at the Goel Tzedec Synagogue "and that set the tone for the rest of my life."

Volunteer in Machal

Also steeped in the Zionist movement, her husband served as a volunteer in Machal (volunteers from abroad) in the 1948 War of Independence. Esther and Irving met in 1950 and married two years later. They spent a year-long honeymoon in Israel and today they maintain a home in the German Colony where they spend two months of each year.

After an active voluntary career in Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, in 1973, "when times had turned against Israel," she became president of the Toronto organization. She recalls the "strong feelings" and support for Israel at that time. "We had the bazaar and a week later, spontaneously and with great emotion, we held a sacrifice sale — people brought in their rings, silver and other precious items."

She stressed that at that time it was particularly important to support tourism "at a time when individuals feared to travel to Israel and it is as important today for Jews to visit Israel. In January, under Matlow's leadership, a group of Hadassah-WIZO members went on a tour of Israel.

"This is our opportunity to show that we are not afraid — it will be a statement that the members of Hadassah-WIZO are partners with Israel when times are a little rough, just as they are when times are good."

Reflecting on some of the projects she spearheaded, she says planning and hosting the five-day Olympiad for the physically disabled in Montreal, which was underwritten by Murray Goldman, gave her a great deal of satisfaction. "We have always had a hands-on relationship with Israel and working with the physically disabled was thrilling and memorable."

In the early 1970s, the Matlows again spent a year in Israel. They went with their four children who all attended regular schools in Israel while Esther and Irving audited courses at the Hebrew University and learned at an Ulpan.

"Our children went to day school in Toronto and they were prepared to move right into the Israeli school system. Their children are Anne (Bohnen), 36, Ruth (Garbe), 34, Elaine (Tal-El), 33, who lives in Jerusalem, and David 29. They have 10 grandchildren.

She notes that this "memorable year" in Israel with the children "solidified our family's commitment and attachment to the State of Israel — Israel has always been there — always a part of our lives."

She served on the board of the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations, Toronto Jewish Congress and as a vice-president of the Central Region of the Canadian Zionist Federation. Irving is a past president of the Toronto Zionist Council and chairman of the Association for the Welfare of Soldiers in Israel.

In an interview with The CJN, the national president said that she believes that to reach Hadassah-WIZO's goal and to build commitment to the State of Israel and the Jewish people, "it has to be based on a solid foundation of Jewish knowledge, history, traditions and Jewish values.

"To live Jewishly gives added dimension to our lives as Canadians; To be a Zionist brings added satisfaction to one's Jewishness; To be involved in Hadassah-WIZO brings deeper meaning and visible expression to our Zionist ideals."

High on her agenda as national president, is attracting more young women, including professionals in the work force. "We are prepared to take them on their terms — for short term commitments." She notes that Hadassah-WIZO spans the generations. "All of them are valuable and actively contributing members."

Esther Matlow

COMMUNITY CENTRE FUNDS

Okanagan Jewish Community Association recently got a cheque for $163,000 from British Columbia lottery to help build a community centre in Kelowna. At the ceremony are (from left) Mel Kotler, fund raising chairman; Larry Chalmers, MLA; Madeleine Dedels, OJC president; Bob Levin, building committee chairman; Cliff Serwa, MLA.

Fund-raising campaign launched

BBYO seeking new funding

By
RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO) of Canada continues to scramble for money, as the date B'nai Brith Canada has set to cut off funds to the youth group — Jan. 31 — looms large.

Across the country, adult advisors and BBYO lay leaders are tapping BBC lodges, parents of BBYO members, federations and individuals to raise enough money to keep the youth group going through 1991, and perhaps beyond.

BBC has embarked on a public fund-raising campaign that includes using ads in The CJN which allow donors to earmark contributions to one or more of the four BBYO regions.

Also scheduled are meetings with federation leaders in an effort to explore new funding partnerships and to discuss fund-raising strategies in the current economic climate.

Late last month, BBC announced that as of Jan. 31, 1991, it would cut funding to BBYO because of austerity measures. The cutbacks are expected to save BBC over $400,000 in 1991, a year in which the organization is slated to slash over $1 million from its budget.

BBYO's Canadian regions were told to raise funds by themselves, and the five full-time employees were sent notices of termination.

BBYO, with over 1,600 teenaged members across Canada, was warned by BBYO International that the Canadian organization would be phased out if the necessary funds were not raised [CJN, Jan. 10].

"We're working feverishly," Mark Silverstein, chairman of BBYO's Lake Ontario region, told The CJN. "We're meeting lodge presidents, (BBYO) alumni and individuals. We have some commitments."

Silverstein said the budget for his region this year is $191,000. He said the region needs to raise $100,000 "as a bare bones minimum. But we're optimistic we can do it. We're plodding along."

Murray Kozlick, a past chairman of Laurentian Region's adult advisory board, said BBC's abrupt announcement of the cuts "shocked a lot of people and caused some panic" among members in Montreal.

Kozlick said the region needs from $60,000 to $65,000 to operate for the year, and that between $30,000 and $35,000 has already been pledged.

Out West, BBYO's North-West Region needs as "an absolute minimum" $30,000 to keep functioning, said region board chairman Dan Kauffman.

The region takes in Calgary, Edmonton, Regina and Saskatoon, and it's often the only exposure the 200 or so members have to Judaism, Kauffman said.

Kauffman and Drew Staffenberg, executive director of the Calgary Jewish Centre, say BBC stopped funding the region last August.

Staffenberg said the region's 1991 budget is $45,000, with the Calgary Jewish Centre and the Edmonton Jewish Community Centre supervising the one full-time and one part-time BBYO employees.

Enough money has been raised in Red River Region, which is essentially Winnipeg, to keep BBYO going until the end of April, said Marsha Bashefsky, chairman of the adult advisory board.

The funds have come from the Winnipeg Jewish Foundation, which is an endowment fund. Negotiations for more money are underway with the Winnipeg Jewish Community Centre, where the BBYO office has been located since last September.

The region has a budget of about $45,000 for 1991, Bashefsky said.

She said two planned conventions, one for this February and a joint convention with the North-West Region in Regina in March, are going ahead.

Set for St. Catharines next month

NAHON convention planned

By
GIL KEZWER

TORONTO —

Organizers are anticipating that some 150 Jewish high school students from as far as Vancouver, Miami and Moncton will be getting together at the Holiday Inn in St. Catharines, Ont. Feb. 14 to 17 for the North American High School Organization Network (NAHON)'s upcoming annual convention.

NAHON national co-ordinator Sarah Zeldman, a Grade 12 student at Earl Haig Collegiate, told The CJN she is hoping to get a significant registration of Toronto teenagers.

There will be "heightened security" at the conference due to the current Mideast war but the agenda will be much broader than Israel's involvement in the Gulf, she said.

Among the speakers will be film producer Simha Jacobivici on Ethiopian Jewry, Toronto Board of Jewish Education director Rabbi Irwin Witty on intermarriage, and York University sociologist Prof. Stuart Shoenfeld on Jewish identity.

Other topics will include Holocaust denial, skinheads and neo-Nazis, Operation Exodus and the intifada.

Israeli Consul-General Benjamin Abileah will provide the keynote address, providing an update on developments in the war against Iraq.

Zeldman credited Batya Tobin, a Grade 12 student at York Mills Collegiate, for her work in organizing the program.

For further information, contact NAHON at (416) 783-1165 or Zeldman at (416) 733-1298.

War not Israel's: McDougall

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The federal minister of immigration and employment, Barbara McDougall, told the participants that she was attending the rally not only to share with friends and reflect on the tragic event but also to bring greetings from Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

McDougall, member of Parliament for the central Toronto riding of St. Paul's, said that no one is untouched or unaffected by war.

"War, any war, involves a loss of compassion, respect and hope, to say nothing of the loss of life. However, we should take courage from Israel.

"The war in the Gulf is not Israel's war," she said, pausing to let the applause die down.

"The Saddam Husseins of this world cannot be tolerated because they represent a threat to peace and order for the entire world."

McDougall brought tears to many in the room as she concluded her speech: "Am Yisroel Chai."

Les Scheininger, president of Canadian Jewish Congress, said that as the world watched Israelis strap on their gas masks, the horror of the situation travelled up the spine of every Jew in the world.

And now, after everything Israel has endured, it has shown restraint in the name of peace, he said.

The courageous people of Israel have remained calm and confident. He added that the fact that no one was hurt during the missile attacks is a miracle.

"The same time that missiles were landing in Israel, so too were planes filled with Soviet Jews. As it has been said before, in Israel we don't believe in miracles, we rely on them."

Scheininger commended the Canadian government for its participation in the international coalition. He said that the heartwarming words from the prime minister were appreciated.

When the clouds of war over the Gulf have cleared, Scheininger said, he hopes the world will not forget Israel's sacrifice.

Koschitzky also read greetings from Liberal Opposition leader Jean Chretien and Audrey McLaughlin, leader of the New Democratic Party. Their messages were met with hisses and boos from the audience.

Both led their parties in opposition to Canada's participation in the multinational coalition.

Among those attending were federal members of Parliament Bill Attewell (PC — Markham), Maurizio Bevilacqua (Lib. — North York), Jim Peterson (Lib. — Willowdale), Joe Volpe (Lib. — Eglinton-Lawrence); Ontario MPP Don Cousens (PC — Markham); and Vaughan councillors David Chapley and Bernie Green.

Arlene Perly Rae, the wife of Premier Bob Rae also attended.

Following the rally, the younger participants in the crowd took over the proceedings outside the synagogue by leading people in song and dance on the front lawn.

Attack on Israel stuns community

By
DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL —

Montreal Jews, like Jews everywhere, sat transfixed in front of their television sets, gravitated to synagogues to pray, made desperate calls to friends and family in Israel, or merely sought each other out for solace at news that Israel was attacked.

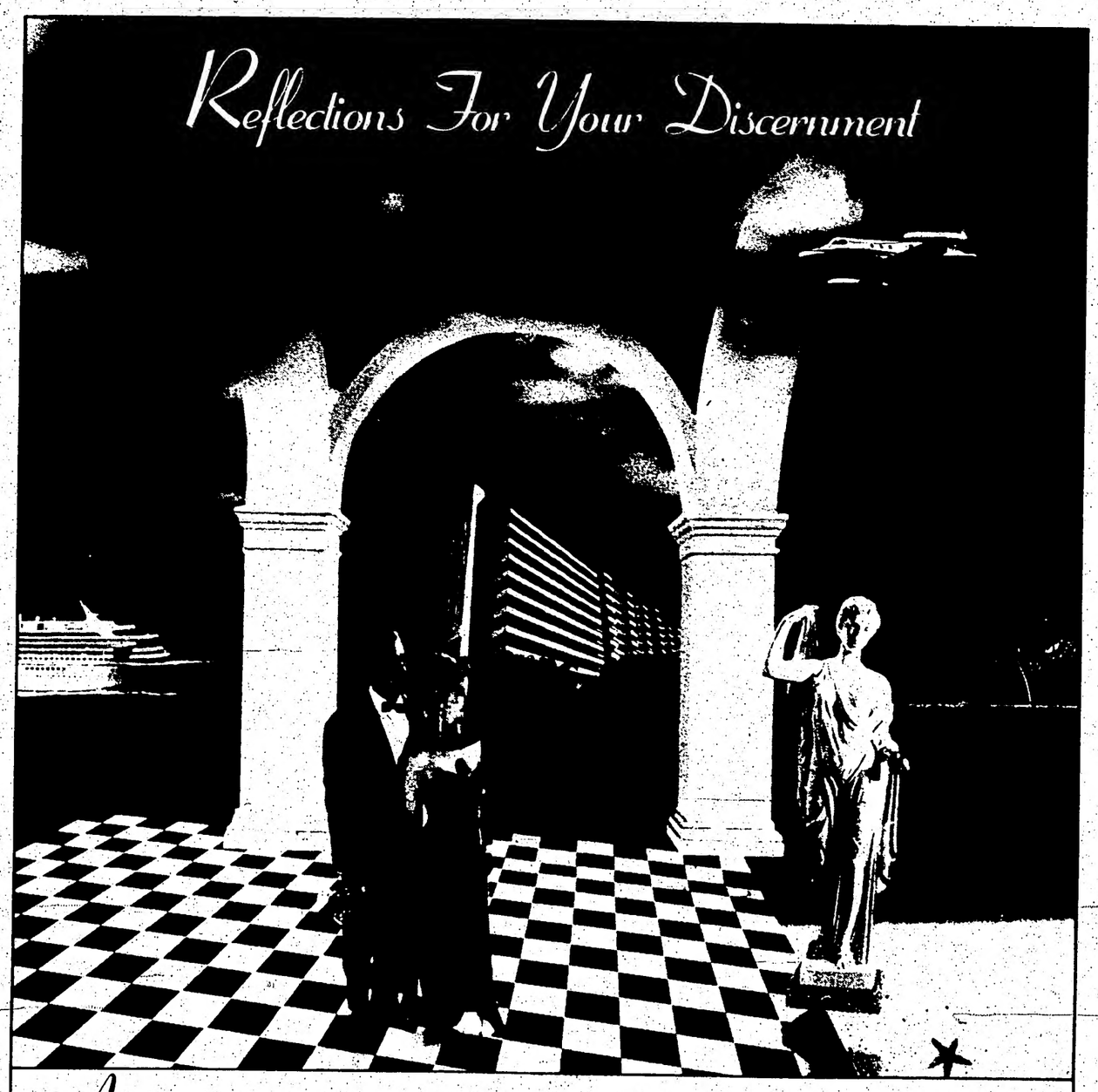
Rabbi Reuben Poupko called for Jewish unity and about 300 of the students later marched spontaneously to city hall in a show of solidarity. Neighbors and honking cars cheered the students on.

At Allied Jewish Community Services headquarters, where community leaders were gathered for ordinary business, reaction was "dead silence" when AJCS executive committee chairman Harvey Wolfe walked into the room and informed the group, according to communications director Bernie Moscovitz.

Within minutes, leadership gathered in executive offices to monitor the situation and Thomas Hecht, chairman of the Canada-Israel Committee in Quebec, told inquiring reporters flooding the federation with calls, of the community's outrage.

Elsewhere, news reports carried Jewish community reaction from Jews here and Montrealers in Israel as the community called each other on the phone and waited for news of possible retaliation..

From Israel, McGill University law professor Irwin Cotler, on a one-year teaching sabbatical in Jerusalem, told CJAD radio of his ineptitude in donning the gas mask and how his children trenchantly reminded him that he wrongly predicted there would be no war and Israel would not be attacked.



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Organizations and People

Child-centred approach is stressed at Leo Baeck

By
BILL GLADSTONE

TORONTO —

With a staff of 45 instructors teaching some 485 students between junior kindergarten and Grade 8, the Leo Baeck School has had a growing presence on the Toronto Jewish educational scene for the last 17 years.

The only Reform Jewish day school in Canada, Leo Baeck offers an integrated curriculum of Judaic and general studies, and a daily teaching regimen which is only one-third in Hebrew, as opposed to a ratio of one-half or more at other schools.

"We might teach a novel about the Holocaust in English and have the social studies class do a historical unit on the Holocaust which parallels what's happening in the English class," said principal Rabbi Steven Garten. "Meanwhile, the Hebrew class might be doing something completely different at that time of the year."

Garten characterizes the school's approach as child-centred, multi-leveled, innovative, hands-on, and informal. To learn about Canada's native people in the post-Oka age, for example, students participate in an exchange program with their youthful counterparts in a Mohawk band near Belleville. When learning about units of measurement, young learners may decide to roam the halls, measuring the stairways and corridors with rulers.

"The kids work in groups a lot and they don't always have to sit at desks," said Garten. "There's a more flexible use of the classroom. The way we like to explain it to parents is that we let the program offer the structure to children, not the furniture."

When they're not deep in their mixed curriculum of Judaic and general studies, the students may be working on tzedakah projects like a food drive at Succot for a North York food bank, a coat drive for the homeless, and a clothing and toy drop for underprivileged kids.

Garten is proud that the students, who sold wrapping paper for a fund raising drive this year, voted to give their prizes for best sales to young patients at the Hospital for Sick Children.

"Our focus is on education in the classroom, but it's also on being a mensch, which is important to us," he said.

The school continues to grow. Next year, Leo Baeck is slated to start a kindergarten class at the Holy Blossom Temple on Bathurst Street south of Eglinton. The plan is to add a grade every year "until we hit Grade 6," Garten explained.

SKATING FOR DOLLARS

Students from grades 4, 5, and 6 U.S.D.S. raised over $800 for Beit Halochem at a skatathon at Forest Hill Arena. Pictured (from left) are three of the students, Yoni Newman, Beth Wassermuhl and Lauren Copeland. The event was planned by teacher Lola Bar-Lewaw. [Alron photo]

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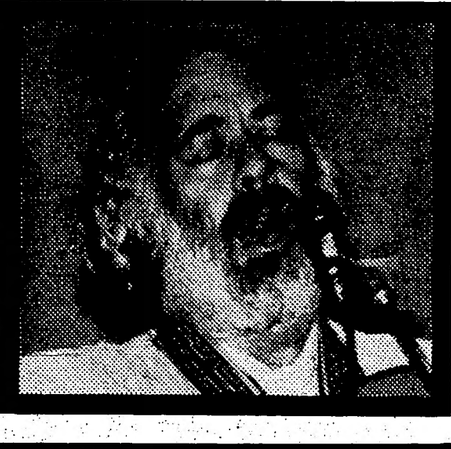

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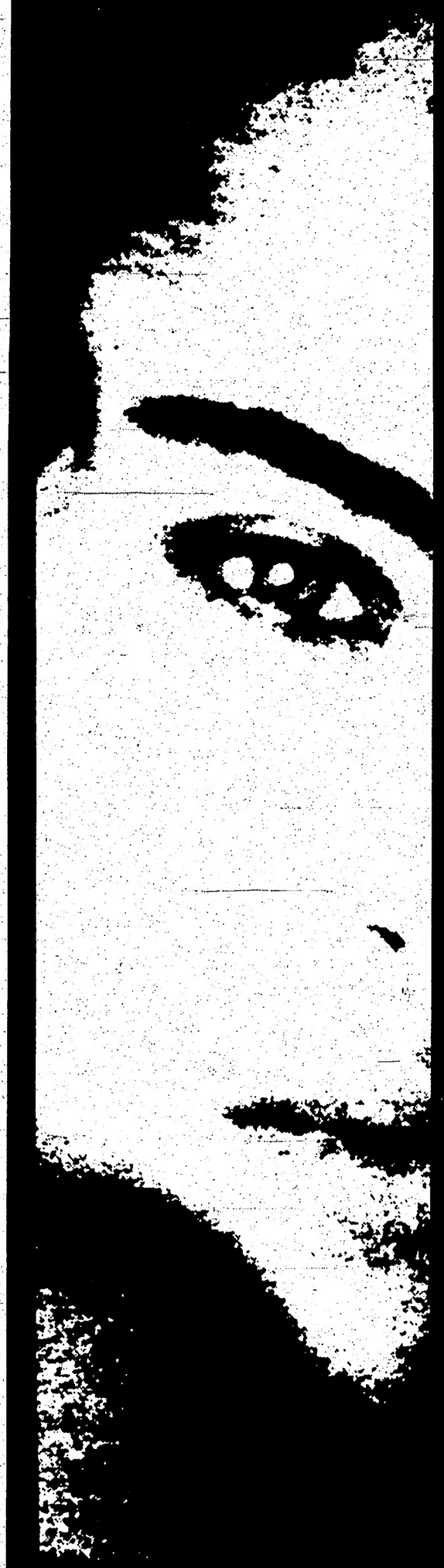

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Organizations and People

Project of UIA of Canada

Skates donated for Israeli rink

By
BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
More than 100 pairs of hockey skates and figure skates have been donated by Toronto youngsters to the new rink at Metulla, the Israeli city on the Lebanese border.

The box in the lobby of the Jewish Community Centre on Bathurst Street is a busy place as the donors stream in. On the spot, each donor gets one free admission to the skating rink in Metulla which is worth seven Israeli shekels.

The booth will remain open for skates until the end of February.

The rink in Metulla is a project of the United Israel Appeal of Canada which has aided many other settlements in Israel's northern area. Metulla, which is right on the Lebanon-Israel border, has particularly close ties with Canada and its mayor, Yossi Goldberg, has been a frequent visitor to Toronto.

Ezra Satok (left) and Josh Raskin, two donors of hockey skates for Metulla.

A mission from the JCC in November took the first instalment of the skates to the rink and the Canadian equipment is already in use.

Orah school teaching Soviet Jews

TORONTO —
The steady increase of Soviet Jews arriving in Toronto has resulted in a student body of 70 children, compared with 50 last year, at Orah Sunday School.

But, according to its principal, Rabbi Yosef Michalowicz, the school has been able to maintain its enviable 7 to 1 pupil-teacher ratio, which he considers necessary to break the language barrier for these recent immigrant children.

The school is maintaining its policy of two teachers in each classroom, one for those children who have no English or who have come into the class in mid-year.

Fortunately, one of the school's own graduates, Sussana Goruveyn, 17, has joined the staff as a junior teacher and her own skill in the Russian language is a bonus.

Last November a group of 25 parents of Orah students started attending their own English as a second language classes at the school sponsored by the North York Board of Education. They bring their children to the school and go off to their own classes in the same building.

Located at 475 Patricia Ave. in the Eitz Chaim Schools building, the students of Orah Sunday School, aged four to 13, attend classes from 9.45 a.m. to 3.45 p.m. between September and May.

The Toronto Jewish Congress meets one-third of the school's budget while the North York Board's Heritage program contributes one-tenth.

This year a special curriculum was developed for the older girls, a Bat Torah program, which will culminate in a banquet on graduation. The program will include trips outside the school.

B'nai Torah Congregation facilitates the process of the students marking their bar and bat mitzvah. Songs in English, Hebrew and Russian are taught. Part of the weekly classes are set aside for discussions in the Russian language, the intention being to teach children about their Russian Jewish heritage. Lunch is provided by the school for all students.

At Orah, Jewish education seminars are held occasionally for parents of the students.

For more information, call Rabbi Michalowicz at [416] 225-1187 or Dina Polyak at [416] 661-8958. — **B.R.**

Israel now a member of hockey federation

TORONTO —
Top Israeli hockey players received a bit of good news recently.

The International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) has accepted Israel as a full member, beginning in May 1991. That opens the door for an Israeli team to participate in international competition against the national teams of other warm weather hockey powers.

Paul Shindman, a Toronto oleh who heads the Israel Ice Hockey and Figure Skating Association (IIHFSA), represented Israel at a recent round of IIHF meetings where the announcement was made.

Israel's national team, which includes several Canadian immigrants, will participate in an exhibition tournament in Greece in March.

With hockey in Israel still in its formative stages, equipment is in short supply. Approved helmets and goalie equipment is needed most, but donations of other new or used equipment (in good condition) are being solicited to meet the needs of new Russian olim.

For more information, contact Avi Hyman, the Canadian liaison with the IIHFSA, at (416) 781-3690.

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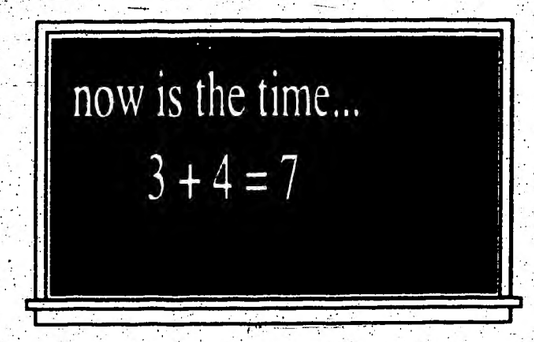
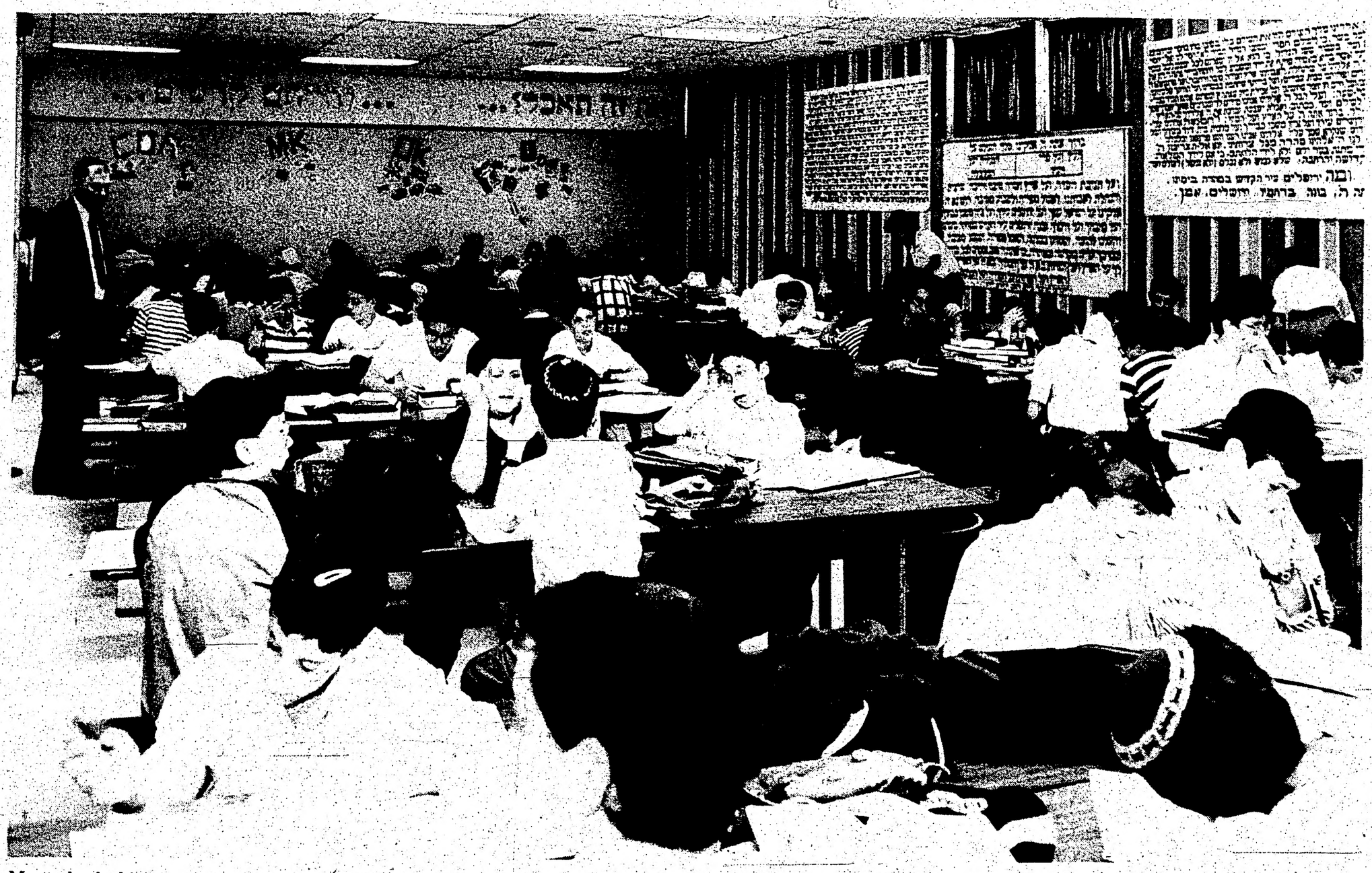
Education & Camping





Most schools this past year carried out projects for Operation Exodus. Eitz Chaim schools conducted learn-a-thons in the spring, which were highly successful financially and educationally. [Graphic Artists photo]

Academics weigh benefits of day school education

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

A day school education is the only way to "convey to children the products of our civilization — one of the oldest known to mankind," asserts the principal of University of Toronto's Woodsworth College.

Arthur Kruger says that even the best afternoon school offers only about 10 hours a week of Jewish education, which equates roughly to one year of public school education.

Besides, afternoon schools have many of the other problems that initially led to the establishment of day schools, says Kruger, who is on the board, management committee and Vaad Hachinuch (education committee) of Associated Hebrew Schools.

Students are tired after school and resentful of having to give up extra-curicular activities, as are teachers, most of whom have other jobs, he says, resulting in Jewish subjects becoming of secondary importance.

Kruger acknowledges that there is a

Ensures continuity of community: Kruger

degree of truth to the accusation that day school students are segregated from mainstream society, but he maintains that this is not a major problem.

"The gain in the quality of education is worth it."

He adds that day-school students are more likely to encounter people from diverse socio-economic groups than those in public schools, as by their nature these facilities are neighborhood schools, "which tend to be homogeneous ethnically and financially."

As for contact with the non-Jewish world, Kruger says that Western society is pervasive.

"Even the kid in the most Orthodox school, with no access to television or

[Cont'd. on page 44]

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

Jewish education is an essential part of a child's education, contends a professor at Toronto's Osgoode Hall Law School.

Fred Zemans asserts that it is up to each family to find a model that appropriately reflects its needs. When choosing an educational direction for their children, parents must realize first and foremost that they are seeking to educate Jewish Canadians.

"I believe we are a community of Jewish Canadians, and therefore, we should be educating ourselves and our children to live within and survive as Jews in the mainstream."

He says that one essential premise of democracy is that we are all educated in a universal system.

"As the Jewish community comes of age in this country, it must continue to be effective, which means that learning must take place in the public school system where students can learn the fabric of Canadian life.

"We should not be educated to become

Public system aids Canadian Jews: Zemens

Jews, but rather to become Canadian Jews."

He concedes that a child attending supplementary Hebrew classes may not become as fluent in Hebrew or knowledgeable in Talmud as his or her day school counterpart, but he insists they can become "good solid Jews."

Zemans says that the phenomenon of Jewish day schools came about as Jews became more successful and also began to fear assimilation.

"Hebrew day schools are an attempt to move children behind the ghetto wall. We are not about to become assimilated, if we can be comfortable and proud to be Jewish.

"This pride must come out of what children are learning at supplementary Jewish classes and be reinforced at school

[Cont'd. on page 42]

Supplement Editor: Leila Speisman

Education & Camping

Enrolment up from last year

Jewish education thriving despite recession: Witty

By
RON CSILLAG

In these recessionary times, too much business, as the saying goes, is a problem everyone should have.

And in Toronto's Jewish educational system, the largest in the country and among the world's most extensive (outside Israel), it's the same story: too many customers and not enough room for them.

According to Rabbi Irwin Witty, executive director of the Toronto Board of Jewish Education, current enrolment in the city's 12 Jewish day schools and eight high schools is 9,608 (up from 9,258 a year ago) while a further 5,996 children attend supplementary classes after regular school hours and on weekends.

That means a record 15,604 children (up 1.8 per cent from last year's 15,339) in the Metro Toronto area are receiving some form of Jewish education.

Just a dozen years ago, Rabbi Witty says, the total enrolment hovered around 10,000, meaning an average 450 children enter the city's Jewish educational system every year.

The result: most facilities "are bursting at the seams," while searches continue for land on which to build satellite campuses of at least three schools.

As Toronto's Jewish population pushes north and the rising enrolment is accompanied by little physical expansion, some schools are eyeing two valuable parcels of land, one four acres, the other six acres, north of Steeles Ave. and east of Bathurst St., on which to erect campuses.

At Associated Hebrew Schools, the country's largest Jewish school system, with over 3,000 students, the long search goes on for a site on which to build a branch that would finally replace the portables adjacent to the Promenade shopping centre in Vaughan.

At Eitz Chaim Schools, the opening of a third branch in Thornhill three years ago has done little to ease overcrowding at the Bathurst-Patricia location.

However, a recent expansion at the Patricia branch added a chapel, dining room, kitchen and eight classrooms.

Both the Bobover Yeshiva on Carmichael Ave. and Netivot Hatorah on Yeomans Rd. are engaged in "serious" searches for more room, Rabbi Witty says.

Leo Baeck Day School is also at the breaking point, and will be among the schools to make a bid for one of the Thornhill land parcels.

In 1990, two schools, Eitz Chaim and United Synagogue Day Schools (USDS) surpassed the 1,000-student mark.

And Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) has put its long search for new space on hold, he says.

But the city's Jewish education scene has many bright sides, chief among them that more children are receiving Jewish learning now than ever before.

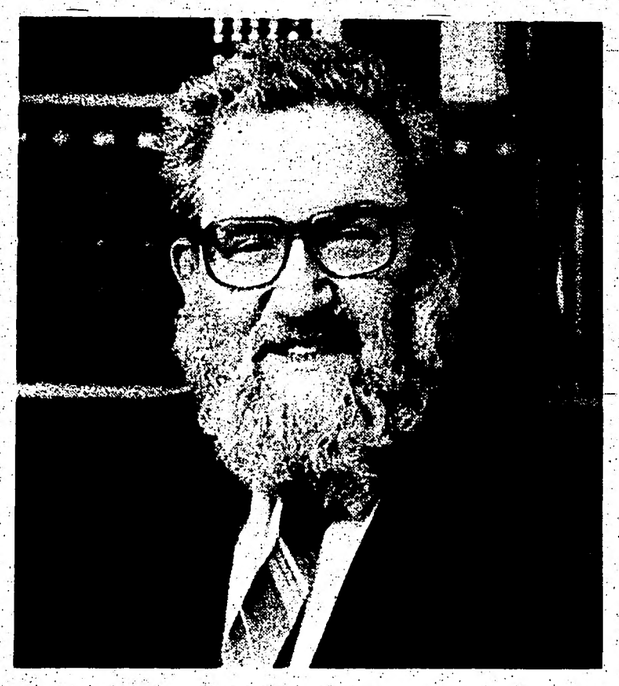
Enrolment in Metro's 33 supplementary schools is down slightly from a year ago, but there's been a surprising increase in day school enrolment, Rabbi Witty points out.

"That means more parents are choosing the day school option, even in the face of difficult economic times."

The planned Beth Jacob elementary school recently cleared a zoning hurdle in North York, meaning construction of the school for Orthodox girls, to be located on the site of the old Saranac Public School in the Bathurst-Lawrence area, could get underway soon.

And the influx to the city of Jews from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe has brought more kids into the classroom.

But Rabbi Witty remains less than sanguine about the overall numbers, even though roughly half of all Jewish children in and around the city are getting a Jewish education.



Rabbi Irwin Witty

"There are 140,000 Jews in (Metro) Toronto (and environs). While we have a lot to be grateful for, there is a large number of students who are not enroled in any kind of Jewish education."

Attracting and retaining teachers is also a large task before the BJE.

The board is currently studying a draft report containing long- and short-term recommendations on how to draw and keep teachers.

The suggestions include reviewing teachers' salaries and helping out-of-town instructors underwrite rents or mortgages.

One figure that hasn't changed much is the drop-out rate. By grade 9, Rabbi Witty says, half of all school kids who started a Jewish education in Grade 1 drop out, and by Grade 13, just over 10 per cent remain to graduate.

Another challenge before the board: the age-old question of government funding.

Last year, the federal government cancelled the Heritage Language Program, thus cutting funds for the teaching of Hebrew and Yiddish. The shortfall will have to be made up in increased tuition, Rabbi Witty says, adding that Ontario's NDP government "appears to have no commitment" to fund the province's independent schools.

The fight for funding of Ontario's Jewish day and afternoon schools, however, will go on, he says.

Bialik planning new school wing for library, computer facilities

By
BEN ROSE

The Bialik Hebrew Day School is planning a new wing to connect its two buildings on Viewmount Ave., near Bathurst Street. The addition will house library and resource centres including computer and media centres.

The new wing will also have two floors of classrooms but Dr. Uri Korin, the principal, told The CJN that no new students will be taken in. "Our aim is to provide a superior educational environment for the students we have now," he said. The present enrolment is 750 and the school boasts a 97 per cent retention rate.

"Our main problem has been our shortage of space," Korin said.

Another major development is that Bialik has decided to open a new campus in the north and hopes to have it in operation by September of 1992. The site is not definite but the school is considering acquisition of land from the Toronto Jewish Congress property on Bathurst Street in Vaughan Township south of No. 7 highway.

Dr. Korin said it is hoped construction will start on the new wing this summer.

The Bialik principal said he would be "very happy" to have a campus up north because Bialik is the only Jewish school which does not have a presence there and the school's link with Labor Zionism and its program of teaching four languages--Hebrew, Yiddish, English, French--are needed in that area. About 20 per cent of the families now affiliated with Bialik live north of Finch Ave.

The new wing will have a resource center on the main floor large enough to accommodate two or three classes at the same time while the second floor will be a multi-purpose area capable of holding 200 students from grades 6-8 at one time.

Building plans for the wing have gone forward to North York council for approval.

On the subject of the new campus up north, Korin said it would be preferable for Bialik to have its own building rather than rent space in a public school, particularly because there is so little extra school space available owing to the demands of a growing community.

Through Bialik's Hebrew and Yiddish program, Grade 8 graduates of Bialik are eligible for two credits towards a high school diploma in Ontario. This year that credit program has been expanded to include computer keyboarding, which is available to students only on a volunteer basis.

The French instruction has been expanded to Grade 1.

Workshops for parents arranged

It is a goal of the school to adopt some of the features of a middle school to its own junior high school to make it a more effective bridge between childhood and adolescence, the principal said.

During the year, workshops and seminars for parents have been arranged by the PTA educational committee and the school's guidance personnel. The subjects covered include homework, discipline, guidance for better living, friendship, and substance abuse.

Student activities have included a recycling program and raising money for a whole range of tzedaka projects and this year many fund-raising events for Operation Exodus.

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Education & Camping

Israel Experience Fair set for May

Downtown Jewish Community School starts new program

A Downtown Jewish Community School kindergarten student demonstrates the blessing over the candles at a model seder. [Linda Cherney photo]

The Downtown Jewish Community School is introducing two new programs this year — an Israel Experience Fair co-sponsored with the Jewish Community Centre, Bloor "Y" Branch, to be held on Sunday, May 26, and a seminar style high school program focusing on Jewish identity.

The Downtown Jewish Community School of Toronto is an independent school which has been located in the Bloor "Y" for 11 years. Principal Joan Schoenfeld says, "The DJCS aims to provide students with a basis for Jewish identity in a pluralistic community. Students are taught the concepts and skills necessary to live a Jewish life and to feel comfortable within a Jewish setting."

Approximately 250 students in junior kindergarten through Grade 10 attend classes on Sundays and Wednesdays.

The Israel Experience Fair continues a tradition of DJCS-JCC co-operation — Chanukah parties, Purim carnivals, Passover seders, Centrefest children's programs and adult education programs. At the fair, the school provides the educational component and the Bloor "Y" provides the facilities and athletics. The program is open to members of the DJCS and the JCC, both children and adults.

The high school class, "Judaism 101: What is Your Judaism About? Issues of Jewish identity in the Modern World," which began this year, is open to students in grades eight to 10. This course meets on Wednesday evenings and includes discussion of local and international current events and field trips. The course is staffed by University of Toronto post-doctoral fellow Simcha Fishbane.

For more information about the Downtown Jewish Community School, phone Joan Schoenfeld at 924-6211.

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Eitz Chaim expands campus

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

A large extension to its Patricia campus is evidence of Eitz Chaim Schools continued growth and stability.

The extension, which it is hoped will be in use shortly, contains a bais hamidrash (chapel), dining room and kitchen, and eight classrooms.

New classrooms will also be created out of what is currently the lunchroom.

Eitz Chaim now has three campuses, Viewmount, Spring Farm in Thornhill, both for girls, and Patricia, for boys. Over 1,000 students attend.

Preschool is offered at all three branches.

Senior principal Rabbi Shneur Weinberg says the school fosters "an atmosphere where youngsters deal with a demanding and exacting program, and are constantly inspired to want to do more."

Boys especially, he says, have an extensive extra learning program.

The senior class trip was for the second time taken in the fall, he said. The boys were so inspired by the experience, he said, that on their own they decided to take on even more extra learning, upgrade their dress code, have a chesed program, and work to inspire their younger fellow students.

Tehillim, psalms, are recited by both the boys and the girls every day for individuals in the community who are ill, and "for our brothers in danger around the world."

A compulsory daily minyan is conductred at Patricia by the boys themselves. Prayers are a compulsory part of the girls day too.

All branches have conducted very successful projects to aid Operation Exodus.

Girls school principal Leo Adler says that the school "combines the most modern teaching techniques with he most dedicated commitment to religious teachings."

A science fair, which in the past has included chicks hatching and an analysis of different kinds of ice cream, alternates with a Torah fair. Both use different media and a lot of creativity and effort to demonstrate the wide-ranging significance of the children's studies.

Rabbi Weinberg emphasized that one of the most important goals of the school is the development of good middos, character traits.

The school urges parents who wish to register their children at Eitz Chaim to do so as soon as possible.

For information and registration for the girls' school, phone (416)789-4366, or write 1 Viewmount Ave., Toronto M6B 1T2. For the boys' school, telephone (416)225-1187 or write 475 Patricia Ave., Willowdale, M2R 2N1.

Beth Jacob prepares girls for the future

By
CHERYL KUPFER

Beth Jacob High School for Girls is an Orthodox high school whose goal is to graduate women who will fulfil their future roles of wives and mothers of the next generation, yet who will feel comfortable in the business and professional worlds.

To that end, and in order to accommodate its growing student body, the school is in the midst of adding on a new wing that will include two laboratories, 15 additional classrooms, an expanded library/computer room, a resource centre, an auditorium (up to now the gymnasium was used for school plays and presentations) and a lunchroom with a seating capacity of 350.

The new wing will also contain Beth Jacob's Teachers Seminary, a two year program that produces qualified Hebrew teachers. Part of that program includes courses in special education.

Other renovations include a large swimming pool, that is being built under the new parking lot, thereby utilizing the space to its maximum potential.

Beth Jacob is a fully accredited high school with a double curriculum in general and Hebrew studies.

The girls are also taught public service and community responsibility, says the school's principal, Rabbi Akiva Stefansky.

For more information, please call (416) 787-4949.

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Tax will affect parent fund raising

GST to add to school, camp costs

By
STEPHANIE CHAPMAN

To the average parents with youngsters enrolled in the Jewish day school system or registered at a camp, the question of how the Goods and Services Tax (GST) will affect their childrens' future is of great concern.

Most parents are aware that the cost of education will rise due to the taxation of books, paper materials and other supplies that the children will require for school. But how will the GST affect other aspects of the education system?

Although many may not believe it, the operating theory behind the tax is simple.

Wayne Matheson, a partner in the accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche, said that in 1987 when Finance Minister Michael Wilson settled on the GST as the proper value added tax for Canada, he decided not to pose a further tax burden on medical facilities, universities, schools and hospitals — the MUSH sector.

After taking into account the services these areas require that would be subject to the GST, such as repairs to buildings and equipment, it was determined that a 68 per cent rebate was fair for those within the MUSH sector.

Matheson explained that the actual amount each school receives as a rebate will vary because of the size and the status of the building.

For example, an institution that renovates a wing will have to collect and remit to the government a higher amount than another school that has little or no renovation work completed.

Matheson said that there will be budgeting pressure placed on the schools, but the initial cost increase, at least for this year, will be between 1.5 and two percentage points.

He added that ultimately the 32 per cent will be born by the taxpayer. This rate applies to both public and independent institutions.

Bernard Shoub, director of school finances for the Toronto Board of Jewish Education, agreed that the initial increase in education costs will be minimal.

He explained that the treatment of independent and public schools is the same because those enrolled in Jewish day schools are offered courses that receive the same credits as those received by students in the public school system. Therefore, day schools are eligible for the 68 per cent rebate.

On the other hand, Shoub said that under the GST, supplementary schools, including Hebrew after school classes, are classified as charities. This means that these schools are only able to claim a 50 per cent rebate. Again, the other 50 per cent will have to be paid for by the taxpayer.

"Hopefully, for the current year, the increases have been budgeted, but ultimately, they will be part of the tuition for independent schools."

Shoub pointed out that most schools budget for the school year and not the calendar year. Therefore, the GST was anticipated and included in the fees for the 1990-91 year. By 1991-92, the GST will have already been in effect for a full year.

He said that the direct cost was not why the tax was so unpopular with organizations. The opposition originates from the fact that the government has not figured in the administrative costs. Shoub said that for some institutions the record-keeping will be a nightmare.

In addition, he said that while this year the rate sits at seven per cent, the GST as it exists now is open-ended.

"Basically, we've handed the government a blank cheque."

Harmonizing is another aspect of the tax with which many people are not familiar.

To date, the provincial sales tax (PST) is only charged on goods and leaves services exempt. Shoub said if and when the government harmonizes the two taxes, the PST will be applied to services as well as goods.

In Toronto, in this school year, $8 million will be spent on Jewish education. Shoub said there are 20 day schools (not all receive funding) and between 30 and 35 supplementary schools. The number of students enrolled in the day school system is 9,500 while 5,900 attend the supplementary schools.

Shoub added that members of parent groups will also be affected by the tax. If the members of these groups are involved with any major fund-raising event outside of the school, GST is applicable.

For example, if a parent fund-raising group holds a concert in a hall outside the school, GST is applied to the cost of the rental. Organizers must then decide if they are going to charge the tax — adding it to the price of the ticket. Therefore, since they are collecting the GST they are eligible for a rebate. The whole process becomes a headache, Shoub said.

He said the effects of the GST are still too nebulous to assess as far as education is concerned.

Gino Stinziani, manager of commodity tax at Ernst & Young, explained how the GST will affect the registration cost of camps.

As far as day camps are concerned, if the organization caters to children under 14, it is exempt from the tax because it qualifies as a form of day care, Stinziani said.

The tax does not apply to camps that are designed to meet the needs of the physically or mentally disabled.

He explained that GST is applied to overnight camps because the groups do not qualify for the day care exemption.

Stinziani explained that from this point the legislation is split into not-for-profit groups (which used to be called non-profit groups) and charitable organizations.

Stinziani said that not-for-profit groups must charge the GST. On the other hand, these organizations are eligible for the input tax credit — a refund of the GST paid on any services that are required to operate a business.

Likewise, charitable organizations are subject to the same rules, he said.

Stinziani added that there are two overriding exemptions that apply to charities.

First, there is a volunteer exemption. He explained that if the organization's staff is 90 per cent volunteer, the group does not have to charge the GST.

Second, certain charities are exempt from charging the tax, if they can meet the nominal consideration exemption.

Stinziani said this applies to groups which charge an amount less than or equal to only the direct cost (books, paper, etc.) that is needed to run the organization.

He added that there is some confusion because there is no clear definition of what qualifies as a direct cost.

"Ultimately, the costs will go up for not-for-profit groups and, no doubt, for charitable organizations. The number of charities that will qualify for the volunteer exemption and the nominal consideration exemption is small."

Stinziani said those groups not exempt from the GST can expect costs to rise by five to six per cent.

Despite the present confusion about the tax, Stinziani predicts that down the line most consumers will better understand and accept the GST.

He added that it will cost consumers more than the system that included the federal sales tax (FST) because the GST has a broader base.

Yeshiva teaches in Hebrew

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

Providing a solid Torah education as well as the tools to deal with Western civilization is the goal of Yeshivat Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot Girls School, the only B'nei Akiva yeshiva in North America.

Rosh Hayeshiva Rabbi Avishai David said the school wants to produce "Jews committed to their heritage and able to function in secular society."

Connected with B'nei Akiva, it fosters a strong relationship with the State of Israel.

One important way this is done is that all Hebrew studies are taught completely in Hebrew, a fact, according to Rabbi David, that also strengthens the students' abilities to deal with the classical texts.

"We want to produce young men and women who will be leaders — who will get involved and strengthen Jewish life here and abroad," asserts Rabbi David, adding that a fair number of Or Chaim and Ulpana graduates are indeed active in communal life.

Speakers from Israel help to maintain the students interest in and knowledge of the country, as do the many Israeli staff members who teach at both schools.

Teaching is at the advanced level in all courses, and virtually all students go on to post-secondary education.

Rabbi David is a strong advocate of separate education for boys and girls at the high school level.

Besides the difference in emphasis of their studies, with the boys heavy concentration on Talmud, Rabbi David says he believes that during the teenage years, youngsters should "develop their own personalities.

"It is a time to cultivate and nurture their own interests and personality — to grow psychologically and educationally."

While both schools have a long day, there are breaks for such things as sports, outings, a weekly Oneg Shabbat, and chesed and activity periods.

This year has seen the largest enrollment since the school's founding, 190 students.

Rabbi Yeheskal Grysman, menahel (religious studies principal) at Ulpanat Orot, spoke of the warm and friendly atmosphere between the students themselves, and between the students and teachers.

A special feature at Or Chaim this year was a three-month trip to Israel by the Grade 10 boys.

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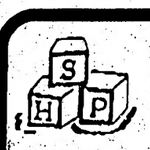

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Education & Camping

Enjoying a piece of Gan Yeladim's 10th Anniversary cake on May 16, 1990 are (from left) Michael Baker, Ayala Eisenstat and Leia Saltzman.

Staff warmth aids learning

Gan Yeladim Day Care Centre celebrates 10th anniversary

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

It was a morning of laughter, cake and songs as children and staff of Gan Yeladim Day-Care Centre celebrated the 10th anniversary of its founding.

Gan Yeladim, housed at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, was established in 1980 as a kosher, licensed day care with space for 32 children ages two to five years old. It has now grown to include day care space for 45 children as well as an after school program for 12 children age six to nine years old.

Shelley Wise, centre supervisor, says that Gan Yeladim's mandate is to provide a stimulating educational program in a traditional Jewish environment. "We offer a full preschool program, but in addition, we study all the Jewish holidays and festivals and each story is presented in a way that is age appropriate."

She says that for the recent Chanukah celebration, 200 family members and friends attended a play in which "the children, dressed as candles, latkes and dreidles, related the story of Chanukah."

Wise says that the weekly Shabbat ceremony stresses non-sexist roles.

"We call up the children and ask what mitzvah they would like to perform. Each child, whether a boy or girl, has the opportunity to do the candles, wine or challah. Afterwards we have a Shabbat singsong with the little ones sitting on the other children's laps."

She praises the warm, loving, staff for pulling the program together and "making it tick. The whole staff works as a wonderful team and parents can feel the atmosphere. They feel confident about leaving their children in our care."

She adds that the "teachers themselves like each other a lot and they share ideas for the benefit of the children."

The centre operates Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., 12 months a year. It closes early on Friday in the winter months and is closed on all Jewish and statutory holidays as well as for Pesach.

The centre maintains a purchase of service agreement with Metropolitan Toronto Social Services, Child Care Unit, that enables parents to apply for a day care fee subsidy if necessary.

For further information call Shelly Wise at 638-1796.

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Education & Camping

New facility at Shaareh Haim

Number of Hebrew schools found north of city limits

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

Hebrew school plays an integral role in a Jewish child's education and parents are always looking for schools close to home. There are a number from which to choose north of Steeles.

Shaareh Haim Hebrew school, affiliated with the United Synagogue of America (Conservative) and the Board of Jewish Education, recently moved to the new Shaareh Haim Synagogue at Bayview and Weldrick in Richmond Hill. The school shares its facilities with United Synagogue Day School.

The school, which begins at kindergarten, offers a regular Hebrew school curriculum as well as extra activities such as music and dance. Children receive a siddur from the school in Grade 3 and are encouraged to build a private Jewish library.

Extra programs include tutoring for students with little or no Jewish background as well as a program for former day school students.

Principal Herb Spindell says the school tries to "foster a love of customs and tradition as well as an understanding and appreciation of Torah."

Call the school at 884-3353.

* * *

Shaar Shalom Hebrew school is affiliated with the conservative Shaar Shalom Synagogue and holds classes for almost 400 students at 5900 Leslie St. at Cummer Ave.

The school's curriculum, for children from kindergarten age, includes Hebrew, customs and holidays.

Kindergarten classes are held Sunday, Grade 1 classes once or twice a week, Grade 2, twice a week and Grade 3, three times a week.

For information call principal Joseph Klinger at 787-0197.

* * *

Temple Har Zion Religious school is a Reform supplementary school for members of the temple. The school is affiliated with the Board of Jewish Education and offers classes three days a week.

The school runs a two-year teacher training program of which one half of the staff are graduates. Curriculum includes Hebrew language and religious instruction as well as such activities as debating, youth groups and inter-temple and Board of Jewish Education programs.

For information call 889-2780.

* * *

Chabad Lubavitch of Markham has Hebrew school programs for children of all ages including Torah Tots preschool programs, a supplementary Hebrew school and a Teen Club.

Students from Chabad Lubavitch of Markham Torah Tots preschool visit a nearby Alzheimer Day Centre.

Torah Tots offers morning and afternoon nursery and junior kindergarten for children 2½ to four years old. The kindergarten, under the supervision of Goldie Plotkin features reading readiness, computers, speaking, writing and listening skills as well as a Jewish holiday program.

The Hebrew school, with about 120 students is for children ages five to 12 and runs on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays.

A Teen Club, for teens ages 13 to 16, offers social, educational and community services.

Call the Program and Education Director, Rabbi Meir Gitlin at 886-0420.

* * *

B'nai Shalom Hebrew school, affiliated with B'nai Shalom North Congregation offers classes at Yorkville Elementary School for children from kindergarten to Grade 7 as well as a bar and bat mitzvah program.

Special programs include an upgrading course for those with no previous Hebrew education and an advanced program for former day school students based on individual needs. The bar/bat mitzvah program includes one on one tutoring, classroom instruction and a course in synagogue skills.

In addition to the regular school curriculum, families get involved in the school by celebrating holidays such as Purim, Passover and Chanukah with the students.

School co-ordinator Sadie Domb says that the school's thorough teaching methods enable all children to master their haftorah.

Call 731-2797 for more information.

* * *

In-Home Hebrew school, affiliated with Am Echad Congregation has about 50 students who study at the home of Rabbi David Cooper, as well as 50 other students who study at the new Thornhill Square Synagogue.

As well as a computerized Hebrew program, students learn such things as Hebrew language, holidays and customs.

Classes consist of only about eight to 10 per teacher.

* * *

Kol Ami, the new Reform congregation in Thornhill-Vaughan began a congregational school in September which now runs one day a week.

Informal teaching methods, incorporating stories, games, music and fine arts teach the children Jewish history, life cycle and holiday celebrations as well as religious beliefs and practices.

For more information call 737-9655.

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Classes meet at the Hurwich Education Centre at the Associated's Finch Avenue campus. Course times are Sunday (2 to 6 p.m.) and Monday to Thursday (7-9 p.m.).

Many students who register for the certification program lack college degrees but are fluent in Hebrew. This is significant as most courses are taught in Hebrew, and most day schools require that teachers be able to teach in Hebrew.

The Midrasha L'Morim makes a serious effort to assist graduates to find teaching positions. Over the years graduates have secured positions in Jewish day schools, supplementary or after hour schools.

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Education & Camping

Gary Levine (right) receives a certificate marking his completion of the Senior Educators program at the Samuel Mendel Melton Centre for Jewish Education in the Diaspora at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Presenting the certificate is Dr. Howard Deitcher, academic director of the program.

Senior Educators Program lets teachers learn from peers

Levine enjoys working at CHAT

By
FRANCES KRAFT

After almost 25 years in the teaching profession, Gary Levine has "come to see a certain limitation in classroom education." By that he means that it's important to "bring the school out into community services and to bring the community into the school."

Levine, who teaches Jewish studies and is director of student activities at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) is in a perfect position to implement his ideas. He has recently completed a year of study in the Senior Educators Program at the Samuel Mendel Melton Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His research project was on making Jewish education a community-centred (as opposed to just a school-based) activity.

The Senior Educators Program brings together Jewish educators from around the world for a variety of courses, seminars and tutorials. Each participant has an individualized program based on his or her area of interest. This past year there were 18 participants from Australia, Europe and North and South America. Levine was the only Canadian in his year.

One of the high points for him was a course he took with 86-year-old Nechama Leibowitz, a world authority on the teaching of biblical commentary. Leibowitz's approach to Tanach is particularly literary, says Levine, and he is trying to incorporate that into his own teaching.

The participants took certain courses together, on topics such as Israel and the Diaspora, Jewish education, and principles of education. They also visited schools across the country, private religious and private non-religious ones; state schools, both religious and secular; right-wing schools in Mea Shearim and left-wing schools. They heard a variety of lectures, including several Arab educators.

Levine says he probably learned the most from talking with other participants in the program. He holds his colleagues at CHAT in extremely high regard, "but they're all doing their jobs. We can't talk for three or four hours."

Levine hadn't spent an extended period of time in Israel before, and in addition to improving his Hebrew, he's gained a new understanding of the country. "Israel is not one place," he says, emphasizing the word "one." He recalls looking through a window at the Hebrew University's pedagogic centre with a group of colleagues and seeing a view of Jerusalem that was "at once new and old . . . the Jerusalem of David and of Solomon, of Teddy Kollek, of yeshivas and of falafel stands.

"It's an experience of Israel which I have never before had. I asked myself, 'Where am I?' and 'When am I?' You slip back and forth between the modern democratic state and the land of the Bible. Neither manages to keep the other part out."

The political situation in the country is "very complicated, and people who are giving simpler answers didn't understand the questions." Having spoken to those on the left and on the right during his time in Israel, Levine is "wary of people who claim to understand from a distance of thousands of miles and sensibilities far removed," sincere and well-meaning as he acknowledges them to be.

Levine feels that his time away was "the best year," not only for himself, but for his wife Joyce, who also kept busy with courses, and for their three children. At the ages of eight, 13 and almost 16 years old, the Levine children established a "*kesher* (contact) with Israel that wild horses couldn't break. They wait for the mail."

Levine is very grateful to have had the opportunity to study in the program. He maintains contact with colleagues he met while away. They often serve as sounding boards for each other, discussing how to handle certain situations. He is also editing a biannual educational journal by and for graduates of the program, and is part of a group that meets weekly to study Nechama Leibowitz's new two-volume work on her approach to the teaching of Rashi.

Levine enjoys working at CHAT, where he has been on staff from 1974 to 1978 and currently since 1985 (from 1978 to 1985 he taught junior high at USDS). "I get to work with kids I respect and a staff I think is top-notch."

He hedges when asked how his teaching has changed as a result of the program in Israel. "It's still developing. Much of the important stuff is not measurable. I approach things differently." The experience was "overwhelmingly positive," says Levine. "I learned what it means to be an educator."

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Education & Camping

Variety of programs offered

Jewish education continues to thrive in Ottawa

By
RANDY FISHER

OTTAWA —

Ottawa Torah Institute, High School (boys) Offering high-quality Hebrew and secular instruction in the nation's capital, is the high school of the Ottawa Torah Institute It is affiliated with New York-based Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim.

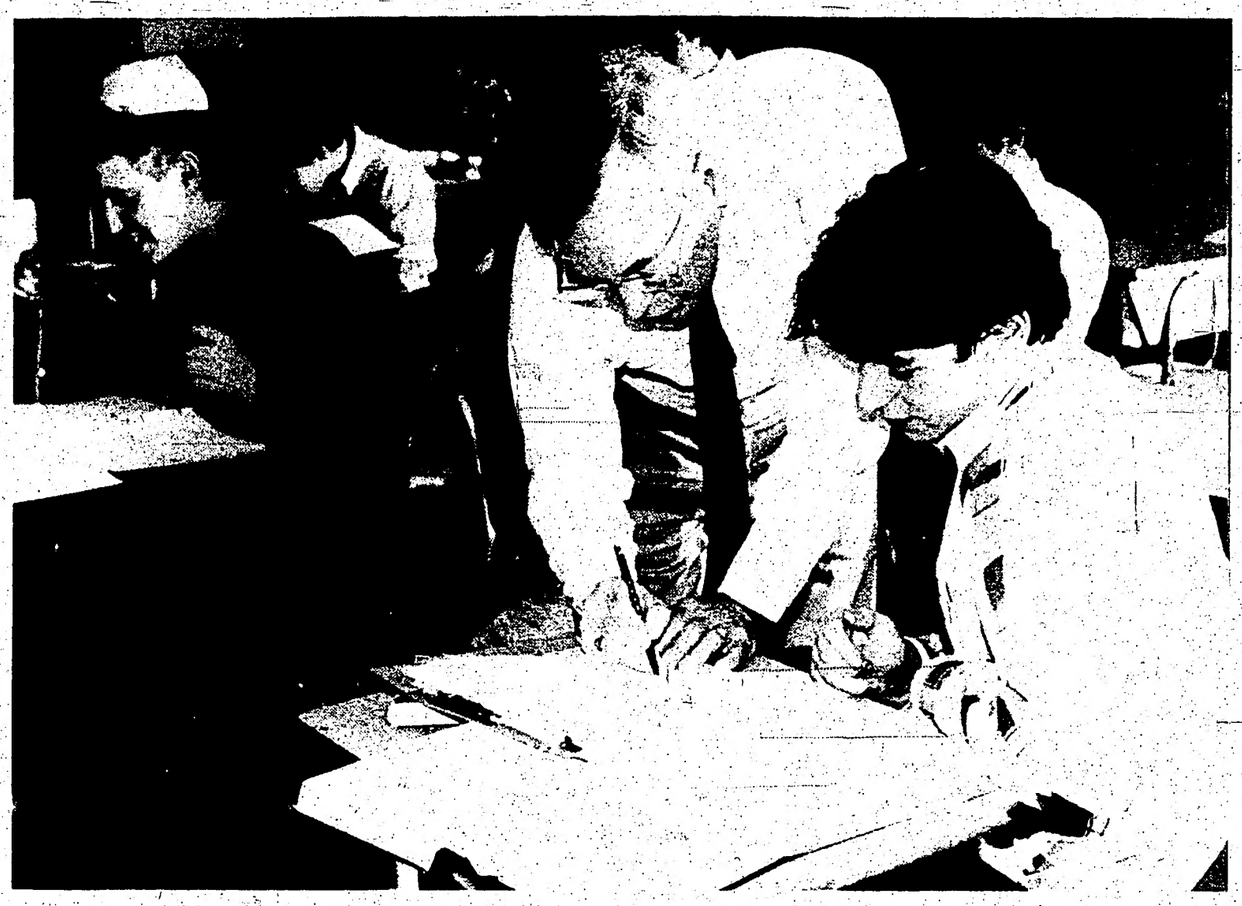
This dual purpose yet personalized program addresses the needs of concerned parents and motivated students with morning classes in Talmud, halacha, mussar and sidrah, and afternoon studies in English, math, sciences, geography, as well as marketing, business law, drafting and computers from grades 9 through OAC.

Currently, 16 boys attend at the downtown location. And, thanks to a newly-introduced semester system, students have the opportunity to complete high school in four years instead of five.

A house owned by the high school is available for use as a dormitory for as many as 16 out-of-town students. The school has been in operation since 1982.

Ottawa Torah Institute, **Machon Sarah** (girls yeshiva): In operation since September 1990, four girls currently study religious and secular subjects in Grade 9 at the Jewish Youth Library in Ottawa's west end.

The curriculum is very similar to that of the boys' school.



Individual attention is stressed at Ottawa Torah Institute High School.

If 1991 enrolment warrants, a second girls' class will be added. The school day runs from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ecole Maimonides: Established in 1980, Ottawa's French language day school Ecole Maimonides boasts an enrolment of 165 students, up from a humble beginning of only four. Situated on a 7-acre property in Nepean, the school features a Jewish education with an emphasis on traditional subjects, taught in Hebrew and English. The French immersion secular program runs from senior kindergarten to grade three. (An English option is available for those students whose French skills are weak.)

The school is also well equipped for physical activities: there is a gym, two baseball diamonds, a skating/hockey rink and gym. Transportation services are available.

Temple Israel School: Home to 165 students, this 20-year old supplementary school offers instruction in English and Hebrew and has a wide variety of programs ranging from nursery school to Grade 10. Attendance is open only to members of the Reform congregation. Temple Israel's Grade 8/9 program has changed to a lecture/workshop format. Some activities include talks about war crimes and Jewish mysticism. The school also offers field trips and retreats.

Star of David Hebrew School: The aim of this 15-year old school is for children to feel comfortable in following religious services. Star of David students from kindergarden to Grade 7 meet Monday and Wednesday afternoons (4:00 to 6:00 p.m.) and are taught Orthodox religious studies in rented space at the Machzikei Hadas synagogue. Thirty-four students from a cross-section of Ottawa currently attend.

Akiva High School: Eleven years old, Akiva High School is home to 100 Jewish teenagers who are graduates of day and afternoon schools. They meet Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. They have the opportunity to earn continuing education transfer credits in the Ottawa Board of Education's school system in either Yiddish or Hebrew Language Arts. The school year runs from September to May. Jewish content includes: current events, Holocaust, Jewish cooking, Jewish art, music, and drama. Hebrew Language Arts include: Hebrew & Yiddish, Israeli politics, Hebrew calligraphy, Jews of Spain and Mysticism.

Ottawa Modern Jewish School: "As an alternative type of Hebrew afternoon school in Ottawa, we're more of a secular school," said principal and university professor Gerry Cammy. "We don't study davening."

With a total of 160 students from nursery to Grade 7, children come from all types of cultural historical backgrounds irrespective of Jewish orientation. Classes are on Wednesday from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Established in 1953, the school is not sponsored by the community,although it is located in the west end Jewish community centre. "Outside the Toronto region, we're the only afternoon school that offers Yiddish," said Cammy.

Ottawa Talmud Torah Afternoon Hebrew School. As Ottawa's first Hebrew school, Talmud Torah began 68 years ago and is now 157 students strong. Emphasis is placed on a traditional quality education studying such subjects as Hebrew Language Arts, Chumash, Hebrew Prayer (preceding all taught in Hebrew) , Laws and Customs, Jewish history and study of Israel (all taught in English).

The school teaches nursery through Grade 7 on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays from 4:30-6:15 p.m.

There is also a special education class on Sunday only for children who are physically handicapped and slow learners. Another Sunday class exists (in Ottawa) specifically for those who live more than an hour away from Ottawa. And, a teacher from Talmud Torah goes out to Pembroke to teach the Jewish families in that area.

Hillel Academy Day School: Sponsored by the Jewish Community and founded in 1948, Hillel Academy is by far the community's largest school. Five hundred students and 60 teachers attend the traditional school at the Jewish Community's west end campus from nursery to Grade 8. Studies include a half-day in general studies and the other half in Judaic/Hebrew studies. A Hebrew Language/Literature course is also offered at Nepean High School for high school credit.

The Jewish Community Centre of Ottawa Institute of Continuing Jewish Education: Offering short, high-quality and comprehensive courses for adults in four one-hour sessions during weekday evenings (7:15-8:15 p.m., 8:30-9:30 p.m.). The Institute had a turnout of 40 people last term, its first attempt. Courses included: History of the Canadian Jewish Community, Death in the Jewish religion, Issues and Challenges to Israel, Marriage — Jewish Style, Yiddish, and Holiday How-To's.

The second term, scheduled to begin in March will feature the poetry of A.M. Klein, Kosher Cooking, Canadian response to the Holocaust, Archeology of Jerusalem and Hebrew Calligraphy.

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Education & Camping

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The Milonit

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — Almost all casual speakers of Hebrew have at one time or another fumbled about for just the right word to express that nuance, that precise shade of meaning, for the English thought they have.

Others just need the basics, like the Hebrew equivalents for "bank," "washroom" or "bus depot."

Enter the Milonit, a palm-sized, lightweight, amazing gadget that may prove to be the Israel traveler's best friend.

More than just an electronic English/Hebrew, Hebrew/English translator, the Milonit, at the touch of a button, will also provide phrases containing the requested word, as well as abbrevations, slang usage, acronyms, everyday expressions and multiple meanings.

"It's a complete dictionary in every sense," says Moni Aizik, a 36-year-old Sabra and one-time commando who works out of his Thornhill home importing the mini-wonders from Israel. "It gives literal meaning and puts words into context."

While most pocket translators contain about 25,000 words, the Milonit has more than 80,000 in its memory, each defined back and forth in less than second, and the ability to break down and define English words that have several meanings. It has won international praise from users, not to mention the seal of approval from Israel's Ministry of Education.

All that's required from the user is the ability to read basic Hebrew, Aizik says.

Measuring just eight inches wide, five inches high and a little over an inch thick (20 cm x 13 cm x 3.5 cm), the unit easily stores in a purse or large pocket, he adds. It is powered by four AA batteries. The keyboard is arranged according to standard English and Hebrew typewriters.

Milonit (which means both "mini-dictionary" and "chum" or "pal" in Hebrew), is a bestseller in Israel and has sold thousands of units in North America at $229 each, Aizik says.

A French/Hebrew, Hebrew/French version is available, while language cards that fit into special slots on the back of the machine will soon enable Hebrew translation to and from Arabic, Russian, Spanish, German, Italian and Yiddish.

By the end of February, a voice simulator will be available to pronounce the words for the user, while business and technical terminologies are also being developed.

Trying to trip up the machine by entering the English word with the most meanings — "set" — only proves its intelligence. From that entry, we get different Hebrew words for "a set of dishes, "set the table," "set the book down," and at least a dozen more.

The Milonit makes an ideal gift for the student. Aizik says he has sold many units to synagogues and schools.

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Associated aiding immigrants

By FRANCES KRAFT

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto, continuing its tradition as a community school, is providing special services for Russian immigrants.

In addition to offering English as a Second Language and Hebrew as a Second Language, the school has hired a Russian-born consultant this year to ease the transition for Russian students, of which the school has about three dozen, 16 of whom are new to Associated this year.

The consultant works on several levels, talking to students and teachers about schoolwork, and acting as an intermediary between parents and teachers to ensure optimum communication. She is also involved when there are cases of academic or behaviorial difficulties and helps bridge the gap caused by cultural differences.

The consultant was hired as a result of meetings held last year to evaluate the needs of the Russian families and how to help integrate them.

Associated, which comprises about 2,900 students on four campuses, is always interested in re-evaluating and reassessing what they're doing, says Dr. Eva Dessen, chairman of its education committee.

Current subcommittees are looking into such issues as streaming, class size, dress codes, and the most effective way of utilizing computers (in the English department).

A computer program was instituted in the Hebrew department last year under the direction of Yitzchak Rossler, principal of the Hebrew Department at the Hurwich Branch on Finch Avenue. There are separate programs for the various Jewish holidays, as well as enrichment material to provide further challenges.

In the Bet Hayeled program (nursery and junior kindergarten), changes have been made as a result of recommendations from experts brought in to evaluate the program.

"We're not changing our philosophy or curriculum, but we're changing the way we teach," explained Ruth Kurtz, Bet Hayeled supervisor.

There is a more open class structure, with small groups of tables and different play areas. "Circle time" is shorter, and the artwork is less directed to allow the children to express themselves at their own level.

Interaction with a variety of age groups can be found in many Bet Hayeled classes. The Junior Kindergarten class at Neptune visits seniors at Baycrest on special occasions, and certain Bet Hayeled classes (as well as some senior kindergarten classes) are "twinned" with grade two or three classes who come in and read to the younger children on a one-to-one basis. The latter program is being extended to include all Bet Hayeled classes this year.

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"Today we debated law cases in the Mishna, and then actually played basketball with our teacher."
(Grade 7 student)

"In our telethon I raised $418 for heaters for the new Russian olim."
(High school student)

"I keep attending parent education sessions for my own enrichment and to be a role model."
(School parent)

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Wide range of supplementary schools

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

Students interested in a supplementary Jewish education have many different schools from which to choose. Some of them are:

Temple Emanu-El (449-3872) affiliated with the Reform temple, holds classes on Sundays for members' children from kindergarten age to Grade 10. In addition to teaching holidays, Jewish history and customs, the curriculum also concentrates on ethics and values and comparative religion.

In order to get the children involved in the Jewish community, each student does volunteer work at various social service agencies as part of the training for their bar/bat mitzvah.

In addition to the regular curriculum, students finishing Grade 9 are offered a trip to New York City and those completing Grade 10 spend six weeks in Israel, four weeks touring and two weeks on a kibbutz.

Grade 10 graduates may return as teachers' assistants and some go on to take the three-year teacher training course, making them eligible to teach at the school.

* * *

Temple Sinai School (487-3281) affiliated with the Reform temple holds classes after school and Sunday mornings for members' children from kindergarten age to Grade 13.

Students from kindergarten on are taught Jewish tradition, history and ethics. Beginning in Grade 3 the curriculum also focuses on Hebrew reading, writing, comprehension and conversation skills.

The school uses computers to teach various aspects of Judaism.

* * *

Torah Ohr School (785-1161) holds classes one or two days a week for students of various synagogue affiliations. Sunday school is held at Steelesview Public School and afternoon programs are at Bayview Fairways in Markham and Pleasantville in Richmond Hill.

Principal Michael Rubinoff says the 37-year-old school has several hundred students and offers a curriculum that includes ethics, synagogue customs and prayers and both ancient and modern Jewish history.

* * *

The Mildred Arnoff Memorial School (783-6103), with an enrolment of only 50 children between kindergarten and Grade 7, prides itself on its small classes.

The school, affiliated with Beth Sholom Synagogue, is Conservative in orientation and the curriculum includes Torah, the prayerbook and Jewish holidays and values.

* * *

Holy Blossom Temple Religious School (789-3297) has more than 1,300 students participating in a variety of courses. Although the preschool instruction, religious school and Hebrew courses are open only to members' children, the school also offers adult programs in Hebrew and various aspects of Jewish life to the community at large.

Students from Grades 7 to 10 may also take part in youth activity groups.

* * *

The Beth Tzedec School (787-0381), associated with Beth Tzedec Synagogue has about 300 students from kindergarten to high school and is open to the community.

As well as offering a regular and honors track that emphasizes Jewish religion and culture, the school also has a program to accommodate children with special educational needs.

With no more than 20 students in a class, the school is proud of its excellent student/teacher radio.

* * *

Adath Israel Congregational School (635-5340) has classes for children from kindergarten to high school as well as a class for those who have completed Grade 6 in a Hebrew day school.

As well as taking part in a regular Hebrew school curriculum, students do such things as visit a Sukkah and celebrate Chanukah and Purim.

* * *

Staff and students at **Solel Congregation Hebrew School** in Mississauga (820-5915) believe that there is a strong connection between school, shul and home.

Solel's rabbi, Lawrence Englander says that "whatever is learned in school can be applied to home and shul."

The school-shul link is strengthened by having a teaching staff made up entirely of members and graduates and members at large are eligible to take a year long training course in order to teach at Solel.

Rabbi Englander says that by having members teach members "we are fulfilling the mitzvah, *veshinantem levanecha*; you shall teach children."

In addition to the Hebrew school and teachers training course, the school also offers such things as speakers and professional development days.

Zareinu allows special needs children opportunity to obtain Hebrew education

When Zareinu Educational Institute — Hebrew day school for special needs children — opened last year, it filled a tremendous gap in the Toronto Jewish education system.

Zareinu, housed on the second floor of the National Council of Jewish Women building on Bathurst Street, is a bright, cheerful school that serves children with special needs including those with cerebral palsy, Down's syndrome, developmental delays and autism.

Zareinu director Liz Moyer says that "until the opening of this school, many of those children were not able to attend Hebrew school. This is something the community desperately needed."

She says that the philosophy behind Zareinu, which means "our children," is to provide the youngsters with a Hebrew education, modified to reflect their special needs. "The children *daven* (pray) each morning and we celebrate all the Jewish holidays."

Life skills taught

In addition to the Hebrew program, children attend physio and occupational therapy, music therapy, speech and language therapy and behavior management. "The program also includes life skills such as basic hygiene and toileting," says Moyer.

She says that each child is on an individual program and parents are quite involved. "The parents come in twice a year to go over their child's program with staff. As well, a daily report goes home, telling them exactly what their child did that day. It is quite important for parents to know exactly what is going on at school."

Moyer says that a major goal of Zareinu is to get students integrated into the Hebrew day school system. "We have some kids integrated into afternoon nursery and kindergarten and it is working beautifully. We are fulfilling their therapeutic needs in the morning and in the afternoon they are getting the opportunity to use the skills they have learned."

As well, children use the facilities at the nearby Jewish Community Centre to take swimming lessons, occupational therapy in the water and a gym program. "The gym program emphasizes gross motor skills such as catching a ball but as well we incorporate some principles of normalization such as floor hockey. We want them to learn appropriate skills," says Moyer.

Moyer says that, space permitting, any child from age one or two and up is eligible for Zareinu. "No child is turned away for financial reasons. There are subsidy and scholarship funds available."

"Share in the mitzvah"

A brochure written when the school first opened more than a year ago, sums up the feelings of the Zareinu staff: "Zareinu recognizes the beauty inherent in every Jewish soul . . . the potential that each student can realize. It's up to us to share in the mitzvah of unfolding these beautiful and special Jewish *neshamas* (souls) which have been entrusted to our care."

For more information call the school at 631-7646.

— C.B.

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Education & Camping

Camps operated at three branches

JCC offers plenty of summer fun for children

By
FRANCES KRAFT

The three Toronto branches of the Jewish Community Centre all offer programs for children this coming summer.

* * *

Camp Summer Fun, at the Bloor 'Y' branch, provides five- to 10-year-olds with a variety of activities including outings, music, drama, arts and crafts, gymnastics and swimming.

The camp is divided into two-week sessions throughout July and August.

Summer Fun Plus is for 10- to 14-year-olds. It's a two-week creative arts program from July 15 to July 26 only. Sports and swimming are included along with creative arts such as dance, drama and photography.

Another special program is offered for 10- to 14-year-olds from August 26 to 30. Gymnastics Summer Camp includes swimming and rest time. All levels of performance expertise are welcome.

For further information on the above camps, contact Florence Marantz at 924-6211.

* * *

At the northern JCC branch, Centre Camp offers depot busing, extended hours, an arts program for eight- to 12-year-olds as well as a sports program for the same age group, and a CIT program for 13- and 14-year-olds. The camp takes children from the age of four.

There is a Centre to Centre Israel program for 15- to 18-year-olds, and a morning program for two- to three-year-olds. Children must have turned two by January 1, 1991.

For further information, contact Camp Director Karen Nusbaum at 631-5678.

* * *

Kids' Kourt is a play group held at the North/East Valley branch during July and August for youngsters age two to five. Hours are 9:00 to 12:00 for the younger ones and 9:00 to 2:00 for ages four and five. Sessions are four weeks long, and swimming instruction is included.

Registration for Kids' Kourt is currently open to Valley members only. It will open to non-members in May, although children registered must be centre members. (Membership is $18 or $36 for families.) For more information contact Sofie Azen at 889-0813.

The Valley Junior Program is a two-week program for children from five to 11 years old, held in July and August. Hours are 12:00 to 4:30. Emphasis is on tennis and swimming, but arts and crafts, music and a Shabbat program are also included, as they are at Kids' Kourt.

Contact Luni Bendayan at 889-0813 for further information. (Members' applications are taken first for this program, but non-members' applications are welcome too.)

During the year the North/East Valley JCC runs a two-morning-a-week program called Pint Size for two-year-olds. There are spots currently available. For more information, call Sofie Azen at 889-0813.

Jewish values part of program

Lubavitch camp stresses Yiddishkeit

By
CHERYL KUPFER

Jewish kids between the ages of 2½ to 12 will have a summer of fun activities and discovery of their Jewish heritage at Lubavitch Day Camp, says camp director Rabbi Yosaif Yarmish.

All activities are geared to the ages and abilities of the campers. The youngest group, those 2½ to 3½, have a three hour day of free play, swimming, and arts and crafts that includes lunch.

For the next group, ages 3½ to 5½, the day is longer — consisting of five hours of similar fun activities. The oldest group's day is seven hours long and includes such sports as baseball, soccer, basketball and floor hockey.

The importance of Yiddishkeit and Jewish values are emphasized in all three age groups and are often tied in to the day's activities.

For example, during the sports the kids are taught the importance of fair play, sharing, and refraining from 'lashon harah' — gossiping or making fun of someone. During snack time and lunch the kids are taught the appropriate benedictions and prayers.

There are weekly, or bi-weekly outings and field trips, depending on the age group. Attractions include Canada's Wonderland, The Ontario Science Centre, Ontario Place, Centre Island and the children's section of the C.N.E.

The camp is based at the Lubavitch Community Centre on Chabad Gate in Thornhill. The camp is divided into two periods, July 3-26 and July 26-Aug. 21. Subsidies are available.

For more information, please call 731-7000.

A dramatic presentation at Camp Ramah.

Camp Ramah integrates Hebrew into day-to-day life

In addition to the usual arts, nature, waterfront and sports activities, Camp Ramah offers children age nine to 16 the opportunity to live an observant lifestyle in a natural setting.

"It adds a new dimension," says Rabbi Mitchell Cohen, director of Camp Ramah in Canada. There are daily services, kosher meals, and twice-daily, relatively informal classes in Hebrew and Judaic subjects that relate to camp programs. The children learn Hebrew by hearing it and speaking it as part of day-to-day camp life.

Located on Skeleton Lake near Bracebridge, the camp is one of eight Ramah camps in North America. It is an arm of the Conservative movement and closely affiliated with New York's Jewish Theological Seminary. The camp serves the Canadian and Great Lakes region, with about 35 per cent of campers coming from the United States.

Campers in grades 3 to 7 may attend either a one-month program or the regular eight-week session. The camp accommodates about 375 children. All campers must be students at a recognized Hebrew school.

For the past four years, the camp has offered a week-long program called Taste of Ramah, for children in Grade 2 going into Grade 3.

This year, Ramah will be welcoming some of the newest Soviet Jewish immigrants, who will visit the camp on day trips. Rabbi Cohen wants the Soviet children to "see what Ramah is all about" and interact with the campers, so that they can learn from each other.

Rabbi Cohen also said that Ramah is starting a family camping program, probably to be held at the end of August for four nights, including a weekend. Families with children of all ages are welcome for this program.

Also in the works is a reunion to be held this year in Toronto for alumni of the 30-year-old camp. "We're looking for current addresses of alumni," said Rabbi Cohen.

For more information about Camp Ramah, contact Rabbi Mitchell Cohen at 789-2193 or write 801 Eglinton Ave. W., Suite 406, Toronto, Ontario M5N 1E3.

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Zionist camps offer flavor of Israeli life for children

By
FRANCES KRAFT

Zionist camps bring a little bit of Israel to Canadian children. Following is information about some of these camps in the Ontario area.

* * *

Camp Gesher, sponsored by Habonim Dror youth movement in cooperation with Na'amat and Labor Zionist Alliance, is located on Lake Pringle, north of Belleville.

The camp is for children age nine to 15, who come from such places as Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal and Kitchener. They can attend for a full 6½-week program or for half programs at 3½ or three weeks.

Aside from basketball, which will be played on new courts this year, Camp Gesher offers waterskiing, swimming, canoeing, baseball, volleyball and a strong Judaic program, including weekly Onegei Shabbat. The camp is based on the idea of a kibbutz. Campers learn Hebrew, which is incorporated into the program, but there are no formal classes.

For older children (Grade 10), Habonim Dror offers a summer in Israel program consisting of three weeks on a kibbutz and four weeks travelling. Following Grade 11, there is a leadership training program in Michigan.

For more information call camp director Moshe Atar at (416) 633-2511 or write 272 Codswell Ave., Downsview, Ontario M3H 3X2. Write Ottawa at Box 5228, Station F, Ottawa K2C 3HV or Montreal at 4770 Kent Ave., Ste. 300, Montreal, Quebec M3W 1H2.

* * *

B'nei Akiva of Canada sponsors **Camp Moshava** on Buckhorn Lake near Peterborough.

The camp is religious Zionist in orientation. There are about 180 campers ranging in age from eight to 15.

They enjoy a wide variety of activities: baseball, soccer, volleyball, tetherball, swimming, and a full drama program, along with classes and thematic programming to incorporate the religious aspect.

The oldest children have a separate program to develop leadership, independence and responsibility. The camp promotes a strong commitment to Israel as well as encouraging community involvement.

Camp director is Abe Maderer, who can be reached at (416) 630-7578 or write 159 Almore Ave., Downsview, Ontario M3H 2H9. In Montreal call (514) 481-2658.

* * *

Camp Shomria is operated by Hashomer Hatzair Zionist Youth Organization. Located on Otty Lake near Perth, the camp houses between 100 and 120 campers, age nine to 16, and runs for four weeks in July.

The camp simulates life on a kibbutz and offers water activities, drama, arts and crafts, athletic activities, music and scouting. Campers are also exposed to Jewish and Israeli social and cultural issues.

This year the camp has a new social hall which will be used for talent shows, cultural activities, ping-pong and other indoor activities.

Almost all the staff members are ex-campers, and most have been to Israel for extended periods of time.

Camp Director Shuli Dichter may be reached at (416) 736-1339 or by writing 1111 Finch Ave. W., Unit 154, Downsview M3J 2E5.

* * *

Young Judea Camps have several camps, all emphasizing the love of Israel.

Camp Shalom, on Lake Muskoka near Gravenhurst, accommodates about 210 children from eight to 13 years old. There are two four-week sessions.

Campers are offered water and land sports, Israeli dancing, scouting, music, drama, arts and crafts, and a variety of other activities. New this year is a ropes course for climbing and exercise installed by the Canadian Ropes Association.

Camp Director is Joel Landau.

Camp Solelim is a six-week camp for 14- and 15-year-olds. Located on Clearwater Lake just outside Sudbury, it has 125 campers.

The focus at Solelim is on developing responsibility and leadership skills through programs that recall the conditions of Israeli settlers. Shmuel Levkovitz is camp director.

Camp Biluim, for 16-year-olds, is the national leadership training institute of Canadian Young Judea.

Campers learn how to create and run a program, gaining practical experience at **Camp Kinneret**. The two camps operate in conjunction on Lac Mercier in the Laurentians, about 1½ hours from Montreal. Kinneret has 85 campers age seven to 15; Biluim has 90 campers.

Biluim stresses leadership, Jewish identity, Zionist programming, enjoyment and bringing together Jewish youth from across Canada. Camp director is Gadi Anavi.

For more information call (514) 735-3167 or write Camp Biluim 4950 Queen Mary, Suite 411, Montreal, Quebec H3W 1X3.

Graduates of Biluim Canada aged 17 or over can take part in Biluim Israel, a six-week trip which includes tours, current events, lectures, fun and leadership. Shmuel Levkovitz is director of Biluim Israel.

For information on Young Judea camps call Camp Shalom at (416) 783-6744 and the others at (416) 781-5156 or write Canadian Young Judea at 788 Marlee Ave., Toronto, Ontario M6B 3K1.

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Agudah renovates facilities

By
CHERYL KUPFER

"Our staff members have wall calendars on which they mark off the days until camp season," according to Camp Agudah director Rabbi Moshe Blaustein, in describing the enthusiasm of the counsellors working at Camp Agudah.

This excitement spills over onto the campers and stays with them all year, he says, citing as evidence the big crowd that attended the boys' and girls' camp reunions that were held in the Agudah Shul on Dec. 9, and Dec. 16, 1990.

Many of the staff members and campers who attend Camp Agudah live out-of-town, some as far away as Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, New York, Ottawa, Israel and even Australia, and when visiting Toronto, make a point of looking up their old and new friends.

This summer, the camp's 23rd season, several of the camp's public buildings, such as the showers, are being remodelled, cabins are being refurbished and the grounds landscaped.

There will also be expanded water-front activities, such as water aerobics and ski-bobbing for children who can't water-ski. Internationally acclaimed performers, such as the Nafsheinu band will be giving concerts at the camp as well.

This year the boys' season starts on July 2, 1991 through July 29, 1991 and is open to boys entering Grade 5 and up. The girls' season begins July 30, 1991, to Aug. 25, 1991, and is open to girls entering Grade 4.

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Education & Camping

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Variety of summer day camps cater to every taste

By
PAULA CITRON

Toronto has an excellent reputation for summer day camps, each providing a special experience for a child — from honing sports skills to just plain having fun. With such variety being offered, there is certain to be a camp for all tastes among the wide range of choices.

Bayview Glen Day Camp

One of Toronto's oldest day camps, Bayview Glen has been in operation since 1962. Now in its second year at the new location near Don Mills and York Mills roads, the campsite, adjacent to a large shady conservation area, provides children three to 12, with a stimulating, adventurous and memorable experience. Besides the full day program, there is a 2/3 of a day program for preschoolers who do not nap. Children can attend for two, four, six or eight weeks.

Every activity at Bayview Glen is on-site and within easy distance. The camp prides itself on the high camper/staff ratio and the quality supervision with many of the staff being parents themselves.

The two custom designed swimming pools offer both recreational and Red Cross events daily. Children can engage in arts and crafts, pottery, video arts, drama and a wide-range of land sports.

There are also many special activities including well-known singer Doug Barr who will be visiting the camp weekly. Overnights and mock overnights (for preschoolers) are fun events, while older campers may spend an optional week away at Camp Tamarack.

A new activity this year is cooking, and the camp will be publishing a cookbook of recipes used by the children at the end of the summer. Also new is the 5,000 feet of decking filled with tree houses and slides, a gazebo and stage. The air-conditioned on-site school building is also available for activity and rainy day use.

Door-to-door transportation and lunches are provided. Telephone (416) 449-7746.

Camp Robin Hood/Robin Hood Baseball Camp

Camp Robin Hood has been offering children four to 13 summer fun since 1946. As well as the traditional day camp at its Markham campsite, Robin Hood also has a baseball camp for children of all abilities, age 7½ to 14.

The camp stresses the socialization aspect — getting children to work together successfully and feeling a sense of community. As well, Robin Hood places great store on each camper's individual feeling of success.

Specialty activities include music and drama, arts and crafts, nature, land sports, photography and computers. Recreational and Red Cross swim events are twice daily in four heated pools.

Robin Hood Baseball Camp is geared to the developpment of specific baseball skills. Following the general mandate of Robin Hood, the team aspect and children's sensibilities are given high priority in order to make the sport enjoyable and worthwhile.

Except for swimming, all activities are baseball related. The program takes key areas such as hitting, throwing, fielding and base running and breaks down the skill training to detailed manoeuvres utilizing pitching machines, batting cages, hitting sticks and bunting bats.

One-on-one instruction is stressed as are video workshops. Other features include professional baseball guests, optional Blue Jay games and overnights at the campsite.

For both camps, door to door transportation and lunches are provided, although campers may bring lunches from home. Telephone (416) 736-4657.

Country Club Day Camp

Situated on Bathurst Street in Richmond Hill, Country Club Day Camp offers full-day programs for children three to 15. Half-day morning or afternoon programs are available for preschoolers three to 4½. There is also the optional tennis program for eight to 14 year olds which features an hour and a half a day devoted to skill training. Staff is restricted to those 17 or older.

The program includes swimming twice daily, music, drama, computers, sports, gymnastics, nature and arts and crafts. Throughout the week, the camper is exposed to each of the camp specialities so no child will miss out on any activity that the camp offers (except tennis which begins with the 5½ year olds). Cabin groups have the opportunity to do extra periods of favorite activities.

There are also extended days for older children running from 4 to 8 p.m. which showcase special games or events such as a magic show. Camp-wide and unit programs such as Carnival, Deteetive, Ice Cream Parlour, Beach and Olympic Day are also part of the program.

Lunches and door to door transportation are provided for full-day campers. Transportation is provided one way for half-day campers. Telephone (416) 764-6320.

Discover Toronto Day Camp/Funshine Junior Day Camp

Discover Toronto Day Camp takes children seven to 14 on outings to fun-filled venues in the greater Toronto area. Funshine Junior Day Camp is an on-site experience for two to seven year olds. Registration is by the day, week or month.

Water fun at Camp Robin Hood.

The philosophy behind Discover Toronto is two-fold: to provide children opportunities to have fun, and to allow them to experience interesting locations in their geographical environment. Wonderland, Centre Island, Wild Water Kingdom, Ontario Place, Family Kartways and the Canadian National Exhibition are some of the more popular places visited by campers.

Calendar of events published

At the beginning of the summer season, a calendar of events is published and the child chooses his/her daily activity from the different excursions offered each day. The camper may consistently repeat favorite places or choose a variety of venues. Campers are put with their own age groups to experienee activities of common interest at the site.

Overnight trips for campers are also popular. For example, the trip to Niagara Falls has stops at Marineland and Wet and Wild Water Park. There are also overnights to Wasaga Beach and Blue Mountain.

Funshine Junior Camp is in a new location at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area. Veteran children's programmer Maxine Goldman has designed a day of fun-filled activities which includes arts and crafts, games and water sports geared for children of this age group.

Door to door transportation is provided for both camps and children bring their own lunch, although there is an alternate kosher lunch program for Discover Toronto campers. Telephone (416) 740-2267.

Forest Valley Day Camp

Located in 100 acres of natural woodland in the heart of North York, Forest Valley Day Camp offers a full-day program for children 3½ to 14. There is also an optional Tennis Camp which combines a half-day at Forest Valley with a half-day of instruction and play at nearby Mayfair Racquet Club.

Programming stresses new experiences for preschool children by exposing them to first-time activities such as a petting zoo and ceramics. Older children receive advanced activities like photography and woodworking. Other creative specialists include arts and crafts, music and drama.

Sports are also stressed with twice-daily recreational and Red Cross instructional swimming in five heated and specially designed pools to accommodate every level of ability. There is also gymnastics, archery, land sports and a nature program.

Since its beginnings 36 years ago, the camp has built up extensive facilities such as a miniature golf course, gymnasium, sheltered cabins and an A-frame lunch building. As well as on-site overnights, older campers may participate in trips to other resident camps. Many special events are also on the agenda including guests such as magicians and musicians as well as various theme days.

Lunches prepared fresh daily, snacks, swim towels, a camp bag and T-shirt, and door to door transportation are included in the fee. Telephone (416) 633-6500.

Kidsworld Day Camp/ Funworld Day Camp

Now in its 11th season, Kidsworld/Funworld is unique because it is geared to very young children three to seven years old. There are three divisions: Kiddieland which caters to the three to 3½ age group, Kidsworld for children 3½ to five, and Funworld for children in grades one and two. Registration is monthly.

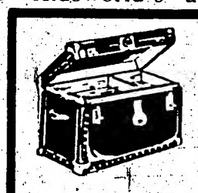
Kidsworld's activities are designed to provide an enjoyable program for young children suited to their level that is more than just supervised play in a playground. Particular attention is paid to first-time campers to ensure that camping will become an on-going experience for the child. The camps are highly-structured.

The campers are exposed to typical camp activities such as music, dancing, sports, creative playground and nature walks with the growth aspect being stressed. Instructional swimming is provided for children over 3½. There is also kindergym and computers.

A different daily main event features activities such as Space and Carnival Day, Olympics, masquerade parties or professional entertainers. A letter is sent home at the beginning of each week announcing the events to prepare the children in advcance.

Funworld campers get two trips a week to such venues as Metro Zoo and Riverdale Farm plus more advanced projects like puppets, clay, sports tournaments, and a newspaper. As well, Jewish content plays an important part in both camps' activities and the staff/camper ratio is high.

All children receive door to door transportation, a hot kosher lunch and a camp T-shirt. Telephone (416) 785-4600.



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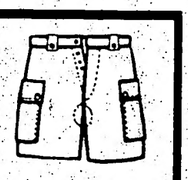

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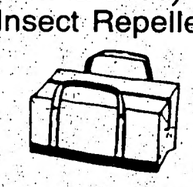

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Education & Camping

Reena strives to break down stereotypes between kids

By
GIL KEZWER

When the Reena Foundation established a camp in the Caledon Hills an hour northwest of Toronto in 1975, its mandate was to provide a residential summer experience for developmentally handicapped children and adults. Now winterized for year-round recreation, Reena's summer focus has evolved to reflect a more integrated living philosophy toward those once segregated as "retarded."

Larry Himel, the Reena Foundation's manager of recreation who oversees the camp's operation, views the mixing of non-handicapped and developmentally challenged children as a means to break down stereotypes and create a more realistic environment.

In 1988, registration was opened to non-handicapped 12 to 15-year-olds who participated in an innovative Leadership Development Program. Last year the first graduates of that social experiment were hired as counsellors-in-training.

The integration program has proven so succesful that in 1990 it was broadened to include non-handicapped children eight to 11 years of age.

Himel plans to keep increasing the numbers of non-disabled campers until Reena's clients feel their camp is approaching the "real" world.

The right mix, he affirms, is rewarding to both handicapped and non-handicapped. "Those with special needs learn that it's important to relate to their peers and develop friendships as they've had little opportunity to do so, and the non-disabled begin to look first at the individual, to appreciate that person."

Parents are enthusiastic as well.

As more non-disabled come in, Reena will add to its accommodation, says Himel. And he points out that he is on a committee which is lobbying the Ontario Camping Association to integrate special needs youngsters into regular camps.

Reena has become a resource to other camps, he says proudly, "offering staff workshops on kids with special needs. We're trying to encourage camp owners to participate in our sessions."

About 80 children and adolescents attend Camp Reena during each of the two two-week July sessions. Most of the 25 non-handicapped children who came in 1990 stayed for both sessions, he reported. (Two two-week periods for adults are held in August.)

Activities include recreational swimming as well as adapted aquatics and Red Cross instruction, canoeing, drama, photography, video production, crafts, overnights and much more.

The kitchen is kosher. Shabbat is observed as a day apart from regular programming with services Friday night and Saturday morning.

A close staff-camper ratio ensures those requiring individual attention receive the help they need. Last summer there were 60 staff to attend to the 80 campers in each of the four two-week sessions.

Campers are housed in heated cabins with washrooms and showers.

The large main hall features a dining room, games lounge, library and movie-rec room.

The sports complex contains a regulation size basketball court, gym, showers and change rooms. The multi-purpose facility also includes a lounge and crafts centre.

Above all, every effort is made to offer new learning experiences, enjoyment and as much independence as possible to each camper.

For more information, contact Camp Reena at (416) 787-0131.

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Eitan combines Chumash, arts

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

Can Talmud and gymnastics, Chumash and swimming really go together?

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The eleven-year-old camp, whose home base is at Eitz Chaim Schools Patricia branch, is operated by Rabbis Malcolm Levine and Moshe Weinberg.

It is divided into a pre-school division, for ages three to five, a girls division for girls in Grades 1 to 4, superbunk, for girls entering Grade 5 and up, Or Hatorah, for boys Grades 1 - 4, and Camp Or Hatorah Seniors for boys in Grade 5 and over.

Activities include gymnastics, baking (for girls), music, arts and crafts, computers, swimming, and learning and daily prayers.

Weekly trips have included Canada's Wonderland (for the older children), Ontario Place, Centre Island, Metro Zoo and the Science Centre.

As well, there are special events like carnival day, color war, clown day and hat day, and special visitors such as magicians, Metro Ambulance and police officers.

There are two camp periods, from July 4 to July 27 and July 30 to August 22.

Pre-school children attend from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and school-age children from 9 to 4.

Lunches, snacks and door-to-door transportation are provided.

Although the camp is based at Eitz Chaim, it is by no means restricted to their students.

For more information or to register, call 225-1187, or write 475 Patricia Ave., Willowdale, M2B 2N1.

Helps students integrate

CHAT reaches out to feeder schools

By
CYNTHIA GASNER

A number of new initiatives were introduced this year says Stephen Freedhoff, the president of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto.

"At the top of the list," said Freedhoff, "is our extensive outreach program with our feeder schools."

CHAT, a co-educational Jewish day high school, recognized for its excellence in both Jewish and general studies programs, has attracted students from all segments of the community.

"Our students come from the Associated Hebrew Day Schools, Bialik Hebrew Day School, Eitz Chaim Schools, Leo Baeck Day School, Netivot Hatorah Day School, the United Synagogue Day School and some come directly into our special stream program for students from the public school system."

Freedhoff explains that the special stream program provides the opportunity for students who have not attended a Jewish day school prior to Grade 9 "to become fully integrated into the general studies program and to carry on at an acceptable level in Hebrew studies." And for the first time, CHAT has accepted graduates from the Shearim Hebrew Day School which provides an education for children with learning problems.

To bring awareness to the unique community focus of CHAT, under the leadership of Connie Beinhacker, the outreach program has initiated information and communications with the feeder schools and the community.

Stephen Freedhoff

"To enhance the programs at the school, there are fund-raising activities which have contributed towards equipment for the 'ham' radio club and the purchase of word processing equipment used by the students in the library," notes Freedhoff. He adds that with new desktop publishing software for the students, they can now lay out their yearbook and create periodic publications.

"When CHAT students move into the community, they are equipped to carry their heritage with great pride whether it's in commerce, the sciences, arts or religious careers — CHAT students bring pride to the school and to the Jewish community," adds Freedhoff.

Rabbi Marvin Pachino, the headmaster of the school, says that along with the multi-faceted academic curriculum, students also explore their Jewish identity through religious teachings, literature, Jewish culture and national aspirations.

"The CHAT student has an opportunity to participate in numerous other activities including athletic programs, public speaking, the arts and enriched academic studies," says Pachino.

CHAT students participate in community services ranging from raising funds for Operation Exodus, to visiting the elderly to delivering food to the less fortunate. Freedhoff says that one of the most important projects of the Community Service Committee is to cater to the Jewish elderly residing in non-Jewish nursing homes.

Students from CHAT continue to excel in competitions locally and internationally. Eight students recently were declared prize winners in the University of Waterloo CHEM 13 NEWS contest written by almost 6,000 OAC level students from around the world. CHAT students participated in several mathematics competitions with outstanding results. As well, they distinguished themselves at the National Bible Contest held in Montreal.

And it was reported recently in a study carried out by the Ministry of Education that CHAT has come out "extremely well" in the Ministry's review of English, compared to other high schools.

"We are proud of the quality of education that we are able to provide, thanks to a dedicated and caring faculty," says Rabbi Pachino. He notes that more than 98 per cent of CHAT's students go on to post secondary education. "Most are accepted at universities of their choice and many attend yeshivot and other institutions of higher learning in Israel and the United States. The results speak for themselves."

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Workmen's Circle seeking additional Yiddish teachers

By
BEN ROSE

An increase in enrolment of 25 per cent has caused problems for the **Workmen's Circle Peretz School.**

"It is very difficult to find Yiddish teachers," said Karl Langboard, the school's secretary. "We could use another two."

Founded in 1911, Workmen's Circle is one of the oldest Jewish schools in Toronto. Yiddish and Hebrew languages are an integral part of its core curriculum, along with Jewish folklore, holidays, history and Israel.

"There is a resurgence of interest in Yiddish and we are anxious to keep the children in touch with their Yiddish heritage," said Langboard.

Among the parents taking the keenest interest in the Jewish heritage classes are those involved in mixed marriages whose children are attending the school, he said. "I'm just flabbergasted at how often they come to the classes and the interest they show."

are attended by parents of students.

The school provides a non-religious approach to teaching Jewish history, culture and values.

There is an active program in folk dancing, music and singing and the school takes part each year in Rikudiyah, the Israeli folk dancing festival at York University.

Six graduates of the school are being used as teachers' aides as part of the staff of 16.

"The aim is to develop in the children a strong identification as secular Jews, giving them a solid Jewish background without the emphasis on religion and prayer," said Julie Junger, the school principal.

The school stresses Jewish history and values, especially the humanistic aspects of relationships.

Many students come from the Richmond Hill, Unionville, High Park and Beaches area, in addition to North York and Thornhill.

Classes are held at St Andrews Jr. High School on Fenn Ave. in the Bayview-York Mills area for students ranging from kindergarten to Grade 7.

The 17 children, aged five to 13, attending the **Morris Winchevsky Sunday school** this year are learning Yiddish through drama and literature, according to Terry Azar, school administrator.

This involves bringing Jewish performers into the clasroom and the children putting on their own plays in Yiddish. "We think this is a more meaningful way for them to learn vocabulary," Azar said.

The Winchevsky School program stresses Yiddish language and literature, holidays and customs, Jewish lore, and a humanitarian view of oppressed peoples around the world.

For further information call the school at 789-5502.

Sunday classes

Located at 471 Lawrence Ave. W., the school offers Sunday school classes from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in two hour intervals for children aged five to 11.

Optional Hebrew classes are a new feature at the **Secular Jewish Association Sunday School** and 38 of the 110 students have taken advantage of the option.

Another new development is the establishment of Yiddish classes at the school by the North York Board of Education Heritage program, which

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Education & Camping

Sets out goals and objectives

Hamilton school adopts more structured program

By MOURA WOLPERT

A more structured program and a "much more school oriented" order have been introduced at Temple Anshe Sholom School, where Peter Greenberg is the new religious program director.

Yet, although more structured, "the essence" of the school is "caring and warmth," he says.

A new curriculum guide clearly sets out the study program, goals and objectives for every grade from junior kindergarten to confirmation class, as well as for the Hebrew school.

Anshe Sholom is Hamilton's Reform Congregation and subjects offered in its religious school (which, incidentally, was founded in 1872 as the Sabbath School), range from the simple "I'm happy I'm a Jew," designed to instill in the very youngest a sense of excitement about being Jewish, to Bible study, traditions and religious observance, ethics and Jewish history.

"The major focus," says Greenberg, a Stoney Creek public school principal who has been teaching at Anshe Sholom for several years, "is on tzedaka" in its widest possible sense. "Things branch out from there."

Classes have traditionally been held Sunday mornings. New this year is the switch to Monday evenings for grades 7, 8 and 9, while kindergarten to Grade 6 students continue to meet Sunday mornings and Hebrew classes are held weekday afternoons as usual.

Rachel Hauser is director of the Hebrew program, which offers comprehensive study of the language from prayer book to convoreation, reading and writing.

Religious and Hebrew school programs are integrated and both groups take part in services and special family programs.

New this year, at the students' own request, is a Grade 11 post confirmation class which meets once a month with Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz for an evening of discussion of a wide range of controversial subjects.

The Conservative Beth Jacob School also offers something new this year, Shabbat programs for two- to four-year-olds and for the junior congregation up to the age of 11.

These groups will leave the regular services for a period for programs of their own, explains principal Gloria Silverman.

For the youngest group, the Torah Tots, there are stories, songs and dances, while the older children learn to read the Torah and have a half-hour service of their own.

Then, while the four-, five- and six-year-olds "go out for a story and games, the middle group does a dramatization of the week's sedrah (Torah reading) and the older ones learn to read the Torah."

The regular afternoon and Sunday morning school offers a comprehensive Hebrew and religious study program from kindergarten through Grade 13.

As well, there are special family programs and workshops; a workshop for senior students who wish to act as aides in the elementary schools and discussion groups for the over-16 age group.

Also, the school places special emphasis on tzedaka, with each class choosing its own project to work for through the year.

Hamilton's third and youngest school, the Hamilton Hebrew Academy Zichron Meir, is also the largest.

Started just 26 years ago by Adas Israel congregation's Rabbi Morton Green with a handful of pupils in the junior grades, the school is now bursting at the seams with an enrolment of close to 300.

Hamilton's only day school, the Hamilton Hebrew Academy, offers "total Jewish education" from kindergarten through Grade 8 as well as the regular academic program.

Pupils wishing to continue their Jewish education through high school go on to yeshivot in Toronto, the United States or Israel, but for those who remain here, continuing Jewish education is available in evening classes.

The school has been particularly successful in integrating the children of Soviet immigrants.

The Academy, says principal Rabbi William Eisenstein, not only provides them with an academic education but also recognizes their specific needs, helps them adapt to their new surroundings and fosters "a positive feeling and pride in Judaism."

The school has hired "a special person" for this purpose, but Eisenstein is especially proud of the way both teachers and children have responded to the immigrants.

"The kids in the school have been very receptive to the need to integrate these students," he says. "It is a tremendous credit to them."

Zemens favors public school system

[Cont'd. from page 27]

and synagogue."

Zemans says that Jewish day schools do not provide children with the necessary tools to survive in our society.

"It is hard to generalize, but many children suffer in terms of not being part of a community that extends beyond our own community. They become isolated from the Canadian society in which we are living."

His concern is that, if the first time students move out of their Jewish society is when they attend university, they may feel uncomfortable "because they have never had to live, play and think with people who are distinct. This might affect the way they see themselves as Jewish adults."

He says that education should be an outgrowth of the values and practices that are part of their homes.

"There should not be an unhealthy tension between practices at home and practices at school. I do not think it is appropriate for a child to attend a school that does not reflect the practices of his or her parents. Parents should share the ideals of the school that their children attend."

He says that those parents who send their children to Hebrew day school because they want them to learn what they cannot get at home are "turning Judaism into an infantile religion.

"Parents must educate themselves. To expect children to do all the learning is getting the whole obligation of Judaism distorted. If Judaism is to be significant to a person's children, then it must be significant to them."

Another concern he has about Jewish day schools is that not all children can handle the double programs of Hebrew and English.

"Many children need more opportunities for sports and activities — music, drama and art — and do not get these opportunities in a program with two curriculums."

He says that when choosing an educational direction for their children, parents should consider their beliefs and what type of values they want instilled in their children.

"A parent has to look carefully at each child in the family. Two children may respond differently to types of education."

He says that it is impossible to develop a school system in which all children can function.

"We have to develop models that respond to children's intellectual and social development."

Zemans stresses that he is concerned that we "do not lose sight of the significant role Jews should be playing in Canadian society.

"We should not become so concerned with survival that we lose an understanding of the leadership and power that Jews can have in Canada."

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Education & Camping

Vancouver Talmud Torah increases student numbers

Supplementary schools feel financial pinch

By
MAURICE LUCOW

The Greater Vancouver Jewish school system continues to expand, and allocations from the Jewish Federation have been increased by 15.9 per cent for the 1990-91 school year, according to figures received from Steve Drysdale, the federation's executive director.

The three day schools get a total of $429,170; afternoon schools, $40,675; and other education services, $32,000. There is also an allocation of $69,000 for a startup of Talmud Torah activities in Richmond, a Vancouver suburb with a large Jewish population. Grades 1, 2 and 3 classes will start in Richmond in September.

The day schools also get provincial government support through the Federation of Independent Schools. This is based on approximately 35 per cent of the cost of maintaining a pupil in a public school.

The big news in the Jewish schools is the increase in students at the 50-year-old Talmud Torah, which now has 511 pupils, 36 more than last year, making it one of the largest elementary schools in the province. To accommodate the increase, a new second floor addition has been made to the school's east wing. This 5,700-square foot space houses four classrooms and three teaching/seminar areas.

"For the time being," say school officials, "the chronic space shortage has been alleviated." A new gym and auditorium are also being built and should be ready by September.

Jean Gerber, planning director for the federation, reports a total of 1,243 students are enrolled in the Greater Vancouver Jewish school system: 649 in the day schools and the remainder in 10 afternoon or supplementary schools.

Most of the day school students, 517, are in the kindergarten to Grade 7 category; there are 100 in preschool and 32 in high school. The other day schools are the Hebrew Academy, with 106 students and the Maimonides high school, with 32 students.

Betty Nitkin, director of the Community Hebrew Education Council, a resource centre, reports that the supplementary schools, operated in the various suburbs mainly by the synagogues, are feeling a financial pinch due to the fact the federal government's multicultural heritage language funding has been chopped. A bill requiring heritage language education, including Hebrew, in B.C. public schools, got first reading in the legislature last summer but died on the order paper when the legislature adjourned.

Nitkin is concerned about the shortage of trained teachers and as was the case last year, the C.H.E.C. will sponsor a mini CAJE conference soon for Jewish educators in the area. The C.H.E.C. is funded by the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver.

Gerber said classes in English are held at the Jewish Community Centre for Soviet Jews who immigrated here recently, and arrangements were made with the day schools to admit younger children from the Soviet Union.

Arrangements have been made also to accommodate pupils with special needs and a booklet will be published on this subject for the information of parents.

Gerber said a task force of 20 has been set up under the chairmanship of Ira Nadel to study future educational needs. The task force will be divided into five groups to study formal education in the day and afternoon schools; formal education for adults and informal educational activities such as camps, etc. A study will be made also as to the feasibility of setting up a central bureau of Jewish education, such as exists in Toronto, to supervise all Jewish education activities.

The task force is expected to report its findings within a year.

In Victoria, Congregation Emanu-El's Hebrew school has 54 students from 17 families, according to Koleinu, the synagogue bulletin. Students are now being grouped by Hebrew reading literacy rather than by age, so students can progress at their own pace and allow extra attention for those who need it.

The Shalom Pre-School, which operates in a portable on the synagogue lawn has a "good enrolment" in the preschool and toddler group.

Plans to build a school alongside the synagogue (the synagogue itself is now used for classes) are still under discussion. There have been some tentative negotiations with the provincial government to use space in a new government building next door to the shul, in return for which the synagogue would provide some land as a playground for the government employees' day care operation.

In Kelowna, there are six children in preschool and 14 in the kindergarten to Grade 7 classes.

In all, a total of 1,314 children are getting a formal Jewish education in British Columbia this year, compared with 1,259 last year and 1,170 in the 1988-89 school year.

Netivot HaTorah grads continue Jewish educaiton

By
CYNTHIA GASNER

This past year, Netivot HaTorah (meaning paths to Torah), saw its first class graduate with all the students carrying on their Jewish education. The boys of Netivot are now studying at Ner Israel Yeshiva College, Yeshivat Or Chaim and the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto and the girls have gone on to Bais Yaakov High School for Girls and Ulpanat Orot.

"The broad spectrum of Torah high school education chosen by Netivot graduates is indicative of the calibre of its students and staff," says Rabbi Avi Schochet, the new principal of Netivot HaTorah.

Born in South Africa and educated at Kol Torah Jerusalem and Ner Israel Baltimore and Toronto, and after 18 years of experience as principal of Menora School in Johannesburg, Rabbi Schochet took over the position of principal at Netivot in September.

Now in its seventh year, Netivot HaTorah has a growing student body of more than 400 ranging from nursery to Grade 8. A school spokesman said that the school has a reputation for academic excellence in both Judaic and general studies and provides an enriched religious and social experience.

From the simple alef bet to the intricacies of the Talmud, and from the ABC's to the complex sciences, the students at Netivot develop and expand their academic knowledge, says Rabbi Schochet.

Rabbi Avi Schochet

The educators at Netivot believe that education goes beyond the classroom and along with scholarship, there is great emphasis on community awareness and religious commitment.

Founded in 1984

Field trips, community services such as visits to Baycrest, exhibitions and fairs all enrich the students. A daily minyan, tefillah b'tzibur and the participation of the students as gabbaim, parnassim and in other capacities prepares them for full involvement in daily, Shabbat and yom tov services.

Netivot HaTorah was founded in 1984 to fill the needs of a growing group of concerned parents who wanted a strong Torah education, a vibrant general studies curriculum, a feeling of oneness with the State of Israel, and a fluency in Hebrew.

"Netivot has succeeded beyond anybody's wildest dreams," says the principal. "Although the past six years have been fruitful, one problem still has to be solved — accomodation." Netivot's increasing enrolment led to the expansion of the school, to two campuses with preschool to Grade 4 at 55 Yeomans Rd., and grades 5 to 8 at the Sinai Branch at 210 Wilson Ave.

"This has not been the ideal solution," says Rabbi Schochet. "With both premises bursting at the seams, something had to be done." He adds that the big word at the school is "move." He adds that "Netivot will be moving, B'ezrat Hashem, to Thornhill. Plans are in the process of being finalized and we hope to begin construction this summer."

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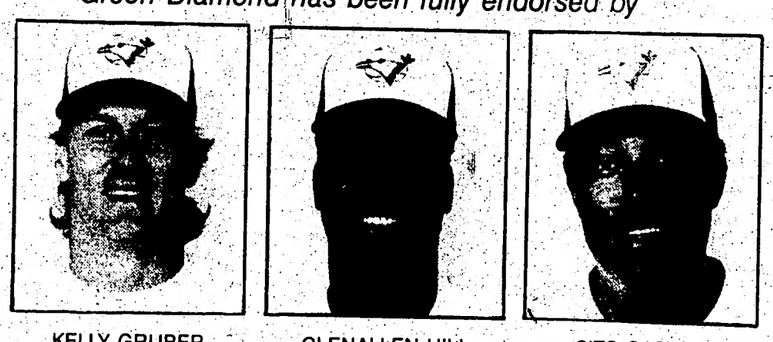

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Education & Camping

Classes held in Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton

Jewish community schools flourish in Western Canada

By MAURICE LUCOW

The Saskatoon Jewish community Hebrew school hopes to develop a specific curriculum to provide some continuity in the education system, reports Allan Rosenberg, chairman of the education committee. The school operates under auspices of the Jewish Community Council and the Agudas Israel synagogue.

Rosenberg told The CJN that June Avivi, who is the volunteer principal of the school and who is a teacher by profession, is coordinating the curriculum planning.

The school has seven teachers who provide classes two afternoons a week for 40 children ages five to 12 years. Classes concentrate on Hebrew, Jewish history and general Judaic studies. There are seven students in the pre bar/bat mitzvah program who take classes for an hour a week and in addition serve as junior congregation leaders on Saturday mornings.

New this year are the adult education classes conducted by Rabbi Roger Pavey. Designed for middle-age or younger adults, the classes are held on Thursday noon and Thursday evening.

Parents pay a nominal registration fee for children in the classes but generally the educational program is financed through the synagogue, Rosenberg said.

In Calgary, the Jewish Academy now has 416 students from preschool to Grade 9 and an addition to the school building is being considered, reports Drew Staffenberg, director of the Jewish Community Council. The Akiva Academy, which is Orthodox, has increased its attendance to 118 pupils, from preschool to Grade 6. The federation provides funding for both these day schools and in addition, Akiva is funded through the province of Alberta as a private school while the Jewish Academy is funded through the separate school board.

Attendance is up, too, at the afternoon schools, with the Reform B'nai Tikvah enrolment increased by 12 per cent.

Despite the fact thousands of Canadians from depressed central Canada are moving into Calgary, the Jewish population has remained fairly "flat," Staffenberg reports. However, about 27 Soviet Jewish families have moved in during the past year.

In Edmonton, enrolment at the Edmonton Hebrew School and Talmud Torah Society remains at 232, the same as last year, according to Sid Indig, director of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton. The school is classed by the provincial government as bilingual — Hebrew and English, and the government finances the secular portion with the federation funding the Judaic component. Classes run from kindergarten to Grade 7.

At the Talmud Torah, some 20 to 30 students are taking a credit course in Tanach, which will apply to their junior high schooling. These are after school classes, twice a week.

The Orthodox and Conservative synagogues, Beth Israel and Beth Sholom, have merged their afternoon classes. Beth Ora, Reform, operates Sunday school classes on its own.

Both the Edmonton and Calgary federations help fund Camp B'nai Brith Pine Lake, which is midway between the two cities.

Grads become leaders

[Cont'd. from page 27]

newspapers, hears rock music, sees billboards and learns that it is Christmas just from walking down the street.

"In all my experience at the University of Toronto, I have never seen students from day schools having trouble integrating either into campus life or the real world."

Before the advent of the day school, he says, American Jewish society, including its leadership, consisted of "ignoramuses, without knowledge of Jewish history, art or religion."

The day schools have turned that around, he says, adding that day school graduates are also beginning to assume communal leadership roles. This situation, he contends, will only benefit the community as a whole, as they will approach community problems with sensitivity and understanding.

He stresses the importance of continuing day-school education in the high school years, a time when many parents remove their children.

It is only at this level, he says, that sophisticated concepts and subtleties in religious texts, history and philosophy can be taught.

Kruger says as high school is when the permanent social "dating-mating" relationships are formed, it can't help but have an impact on the rising assimilation-intermarriage rate.

"Parents (who remove children) make a terrible mistake. They are saying, 'OK, we gave you the tools, now go hide them in a corner.' "

Kruger recognizes the tremendous financial sacrifies people must make to send their children to day school, even with community subsidies.

"People who are neither very rich nor very poor pay a very high price indeed."

Despite the other legitimate demands upon it, a community must take action to prevent people from dropping out of day schools due to fees, he says.

There is also a price to pay in terms of fewer psychological services, and less art, music, manual and home economics training, and athletics.

Kruger admits that day school is not for everyone. Besides the student for whom the double program is simply too intensive, there is also the situation of those with mental, physical or emotional problems.

While Toronto has She'arim Hebrew Day School for children with moderate learning disabilities, he says that students with more serious problems might have to turn to the public schools.

DAY CAMP & SPORTS CAMP

FOR KIDZ 3-14 YEARS OF AGE

OPENING SUMMER '91

"LET'S TALK CAMP"

WITH CANDI DRESCHER & ROBERT WISE

FORMER ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR & BASEBALL SCHOOL DIRECTOR SUPERCAMP

- A PLACE WHERE CHILDREN CAN INTERACT WITH THE ENVIRONMENT.
- LOCATED IN THE HEART OF NORTH YORK.
- DOOR-TO-DOOR TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED.
- HOT & COLD LUNCHES INCLUDED. KOSHER AVAILABLE.
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"KLUB KIDZ SPECIALTIES

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- Baseball
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- Camping Trips
- Circus Arts
- Off Location Trips
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EARLY BIRD RATES IN EFFECT TO FEB. 28

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AN AFFILIATE MEMBER OF THE ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION

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Haliburton, Ontario

COUNTRY CAMP FOR BOYS & GIRLS 7-15

*A child's world — a total living experience

*A creative Jewish environment offering swimming, water skiing, tennis, canoeing, land sports and cultural arts programs

*Food Services under the supervision of the Kashruth Council, Orthodox Division, Toronto Jewish Congress

STAFF POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Some camper openings still available for July 24 — August 14, 1991

For more information call the Jewish Camp Council of Toronto: 630-1180.

Organizations and People

Four participants in Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario Region's outreach education program for Jewish teenagers living in small communities discuss what Israel means to them with program coordinator Sol Jakubowicz (centre) at a recent kallah in Toronto. From left are Sharon Pogany, Oakville; Riva Rabin, Sudbury; Sheila Barrows, Oakville; and Zach Usprech, Stratford.

Jewish teenagers get ready for summer trip to Israel

TORONTO — Twenty-four Jewish teenagers from small Ontario communities came together over the holidays at a Toronto kallah (conclave) to prepare for their summer trip to Israel — the culmination of three years of camaraderie.

The youngsters — participants in Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region's outreach education project — will spend six weeks travelling and studying in Israel.

Students in the program, funded by the Israel-based L. A. Pincus Jewish Education Fund for the Diaspora, learn by correspondence from material sent out by the CJC and from periodic visits by project coordinator Sol Jakubowicz.

Programming at this three-day kallah focused on Israel — from discussions on Zionist history to a screening of the motion picture, *Exodus*. As well, the students heard up-to-date reports on the flow of Soviet Jewish immigrants into Israel.

The youngsters spoke of their anticipation of their trip to Israel. Zach Usprech, 15, of Stratford, said he is looking forward "to seeing my roots and observing for myself how accurate the media are in their portrayal of Israel events."

"This is what we have been waiting for," added Sheila Barrows, 16, of Oakville. "Everything we've been doing as a group for the past several months has been leading up to our journey. We want to see everything we have read and heard about."

Seventeen-year-old Riva Rabin of Sudbury is looking forward "to going halfway around the world to a small place where so much of history has happened."

The Ontario teenagers expressed satisfaction with their participation in the Congress program. With only four or five Jewish families in Stratford, Zach noted that "you don't have the opportunity for much contact with people who have the same religious and cultural background."

"It's especially appropriate to get the Jewish kids together at a kallah during the holiday season," commented Sharon Pogany, 16, of Oakville.

"It's kind of frustrating, especially during Chanukah, to see only Christmas decorations all around you."

The students said that as a result of the Pincus program, they now have a "bonding relationship" with other participants because of the kallahs (twice a year), and the forthcoming trip to Israel. Explained Sheila: "We have this common thread of shared experience."

They also said that because of the program, they are better able to answer questions from non-Jewish students about Judaism, and Jewish and Israeli affairs.

At the kallah, Rachel Rosenberg, CJC Ontario Region education consultant, who is a shlicha (emissary) from Israel, spoke about Zionist history and the 1948 State of Israel Declaration of Independence.

Director of community services Susan Jackson and volunteers Boris and Ronda Shorfer, who have been to Israel several times, gave the teenagers a rundown on the country. Avrum Rosensweig, a campaign associate with the Toronto United Jewish Appeal, spoke and then took part in a spirited question-and-answer session regarding the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel and Operation Exodus.

Bernie Farber, CJC Ontario Region director of research, led a discussion on anti-Semitism in which Pincus participants related recent incidents ranging from "Jewish jokes" to swastikas found on lockers and a teacher telling a class that "the Holocaust was not as bad as it was made out to be."

Following discussion, Farber counselled the youngsters on how to react to the incidents they reported.

Jakubowicz, who has worked with this group of youngsters for 2½ years, concluded the kallah with this advice: "Like it or not because you are, in most cases, the only Jew of your age in your school or community, you will automatically find yourselves as ambassadors of Israel. Your friends will say, 'You're Jewish. Answer me. Why does Israel do this or that?' It is especially important for you to know your facts."

Hungarian ambassador to address CJC meeting

TORONTO — Hungary's ambassador to Canada, Dr. Kalman Kulcsar, will speak on human rights and ethnicity in Hungary at the regional executive meeting of Canadian Jewish Congress on Jan. 29.

In his address, Kulcsar, the country's justice minister from 1988-90, is expected to discuss the 80,000-strong Jewish community in the east European country.

Congress' Ontario region chairman Eric Slavens said Kulcsar's visit will mark the first time a non-Jewish ambassador has addressed a regional executive meeting.

The executive will also hear reports on the recent meeting in Israel of Congress' national executive as well as on the current Mideast crisis.

PERELMUTER-SPRINGER

Jack and Joanna Perelmuter of Toronto

and

Norman and Janet Springer of Kingston

are pleased to announce the engagement of their children

Karen and Benjamin Steven

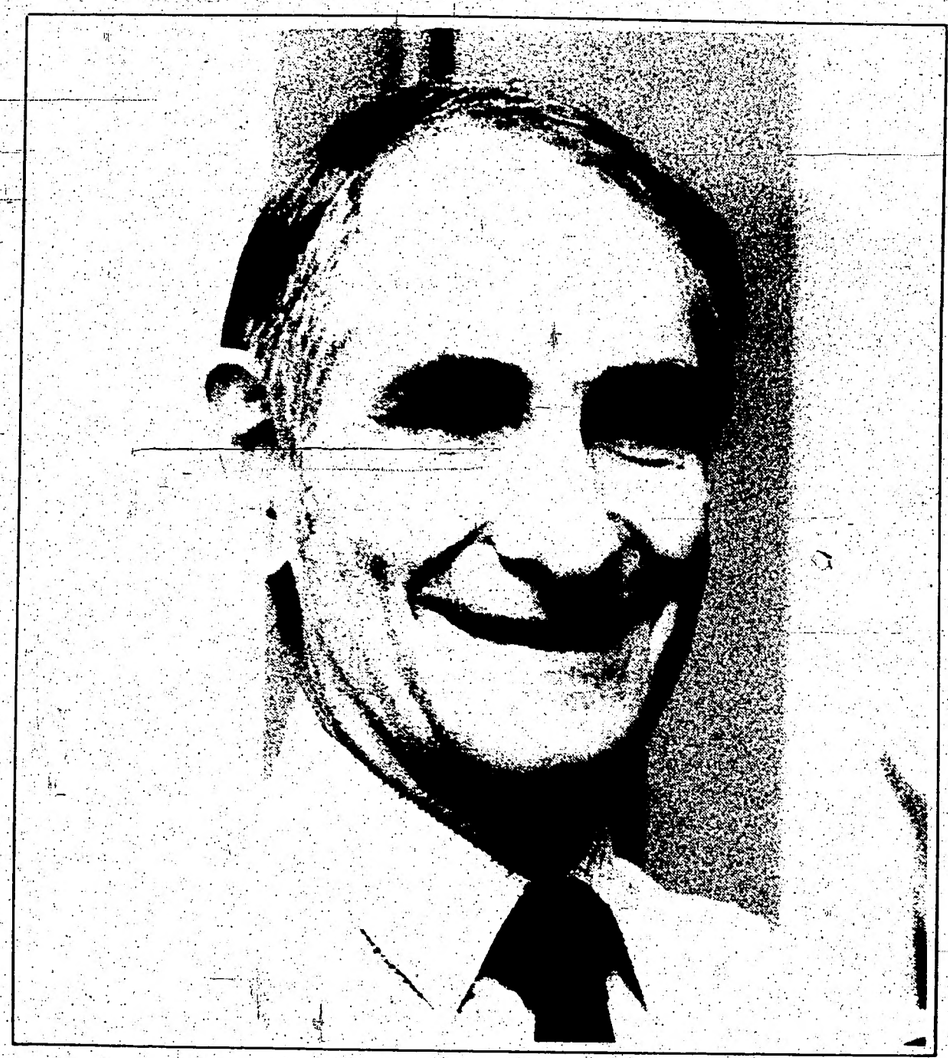
Proud grandmothers are Sophie Blum, Chana Perelmuter and Seddy Springer

בס"ד

It is with heartfelt appreciation

that his Orthodox Jewish patients

wish to salute



Dr. Bernard Ludwig

on his retirement in the area of obstetrical deliveries at Mount Sinai Hospital.

The care he has provided has been above and beyond the call of duty.

His departure is a great loss to us all, for he has been a most blessed "Sheliach".

The generations of Israel remain indebted to him.

He is a legend in our time.

Organizations and People

What's New

By
MIRIAM CHINSKY

DEADLINE NOTES

A reminder that the deadline for What's New and About People is Thursday, two weeks prior to publication date (i.e. Thursday, Jan. 24 is deadline for the Feb. 7 issue. and Thursday, Jan. 31 is deadline for the Feb. 14 issue.

Thursday, Jan. 24

DIABETES ASS'N ART AUCTION

The Empress Room in the Park Plaza Hotel (Avenue Rd. and Bloor) sets the scene, Thursday, Jan. 24, for an "elegant and fun" art auction sponsored by the Canadian Diabetes Association, Metro Toronto Branch, to raise funds for research and services.

The reception and preview begin at 6.30 p.m. and the auction starts at 7.30. To reserve your place, call 731-5620.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Serious collectors as well as browsers will be treated to an eclectic selection from the gallery of Rosen Fine Art, featuring such names as **Erte, Yaacov Agam, Alice Neel,** members of Painters 11, plus **William Kooning** and **Robert Motherwell.** Of special interest, will be works from Czechoslovakian artists not previously shown outside the Eastern bloc.

FOREST HILL LIBRARY

Daily Life in Ancient Rome, a slide and talk show presented by a Royal Ontario Museum volunteer, is slated for 1.30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24 at Forest Hill Library, 700 Eglinton Ave. W.

Friday, Jan. 25

TEMPLE SINAI SHABBAT CONCERT

Temple Sinai's congregational and chamber choirs combine with professional instrumentalists to present an exciting Shabbat Shira (Sabbath of Song) at the service, Friday, Jan. 25.

Under the direction of **Ben Steinberg**, with **Cantor Severin Weingort** as soloist, the program offers recent Jewish music by young composers from Argentina, Holland and the United States and includes a new piece by **Allan Blank,** professor of composition at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Feature of the evening will be the Canadian premiere of Ben Steinberg's Prayer for Jerusalem, with narration, vocal and instrumental music.

The service begins at 8.15 p.m. and you are welcome to come and bring a friend.

ADATH ISRAEL SINGLES

To inquire about Adath Israel Singles' Shabbat Dinner, Friday, Jan. 25, call the synagogue office at 635-5340.

Saturday, Jan. 26

HAVDALA MINI-SERIES

Everyone is welcome when Beth Tzedec Congregation Sisterhood's two-part Havdala Mini Series concludes with a special congregational Seudah-Shlishit followed by Havdala, 4.40 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 26.

All children will receive a Havdala candle. The first 10 youngsters whose parents have reserved, will be invited to participate in the service on the bimah. To ensure that there are enough candles, call 781-3511 to indicate that you will be present.

DANCE PERFORMANCE

A performance highlighting Dancemakers, the Danny Grossman Dance Company and Toronto Dance Theatre, takes place 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 at Midland Collegiate Institute, 720 Midland Ave. (south of Eglinton). For tickets, $12 general admission, $8 students and seniors, $5 under 12, phone 872-1212.

HARBOURFRONT CONCERT

Les Pleiades Concerts at Premiere Dance Theatre, Harbourfront, presents cellist **Shauna Rolston** and pianist **Larissa S. Friedenberg**, in a program of works by **Barber, Claude Bolling** and **Chopin,** 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26.

For ticket information, call Harbourfront, 973-4000 or Ticketmaster, 872-1111.

MORAWETZ WORK HIGHLIGHTED

Performing Arts, York Region, offers the third concert of its 1990-91 season 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26 at Thornhill Presbyterian Church, 271 Centre St.

Guests artists will be soprano, **Heather Glerum,** clarinetist **Peter Stoll** and pianist, **Sandra Mogensen.** A highlight will be a composition by **Oscar Morawetz,** based on **Archibald Lampman's** poem, The Weaver.

Tickets are $12 for adults, $7 students and seniors, $3 children. For more information, call 889-4359 or 889-5666.

Sunday, Jan. 27

CHILDREN'S SHOW

Children, grandchildren, bring your parents and grandparents, to The Magic of Aaron Sidenberg, brought to you by The Israel Cancer Research Fund, Young Associates, Sunday, Jan. 27 at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 3080 Bayview Ave. Show times are 1.30 and 3 p.m.

Tickets, $5 each, may be purchased by calling 787-0139

MIDDLE EAST EVALUATION

B'nai Torah Congregation, 465 Patricia Ave., invites you to a public address by journalist/author **Steven Emerson,** who will consider The Middle East: The Story Behind the Headlines, 7.30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 27.

Emerson writes for the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, has appeared on CNN and is the author of three books including The Fall of Pan Am 103.

Admission is $5. Refreshments will be served.

G.R.A.N.D. SOCIETY

G.R.A.N.D. Society, a support group for grandparents seeking access, welcomes you to hear a family law mediator 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27, at 16 Spadina Rd.

To inquire further, call 469-5471 or 781-3343.

HOLY BLOSSOM BROTHERHOOD

Relax a little, Sunday morning, Jan. 23, with Only in America, a series of hilarious song parodies recalling **Cantor Levinson's** own career.

Service is at 9, breakfast 9.30. Everyone is welcome.

Monday, Jan. 28

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC AT JCC

A blood donor clinic is scheduled for 2-8.30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28 at the Jewish Community Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. The goal is 120 units of blood.

To inquire, call 974-9900.

MARKHAM LUBAVITCH LADIES

The Jewel Ladies (ladies club of Lubavitch Markham) are planning an evening in honor of Tu-B'Shvat, Monday, Jan. 28 at the shul, 21 Prince Edward Blvd., Leslie and Green Lane area.

Noted child psychologist **Dr. Saul Goldstein,** will examine family relationships when he talks about Living with our Children - The Inner Struggle.

Be a chocolate charmer. Learn the secrets of making your own chocolate baskets.

Cost is $2 per person. For additonal information, call 886-0420.

SHAAR SHALOM LECTURES

Shaar Shalom Synagogue's adult lecture series, Historical Personalities Come to Life, continues with a discussion on Rashi, by **Rabbi Irwin Witty,** Monday, Jan. 28.

All lectures take place 8 p.m. at the synagogue, 2 Simonston Blvd. (one block north of Steeles and Don Mills) Thornhill.

MONDAY MAGIC

Come out, listen to interesting speakers, share coffee and experiences with other mothers of young children. Monday MAGIC (Mothers Against Going Incredibly Crazy) meets on Monday mornings from 9.30-11.30 a.m. at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, 1700 Bathurst St. Babysitting is available with mature, caring and experienced sitters.

On Monday, Jan. 28, learn about Self-Defence for Women by from **Judy Schier.**

BETH TIKVAH ADULT ED.

From Dreyfus to Vichy to French Jewry Today, will be examined by **Prof. Arnold Ages,** at the next session in the Beth Tikvah Adult Education series exploring the effects of emancipation on 19th and 20th century Jews.

The series continues on Mondays at 8 p.m. through March 4 at the synagogue, 3080 Bayview Ave.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

THE POLLARD CASE

"Let the Truth be Told" - **Carol Pollard,** sister of **Jonathan Pollard,** the American convicted of spying for Israel, will speak about her brother's case at Shaarei Tefillah Congregation, 3600 Bathurst St., 8 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 29.

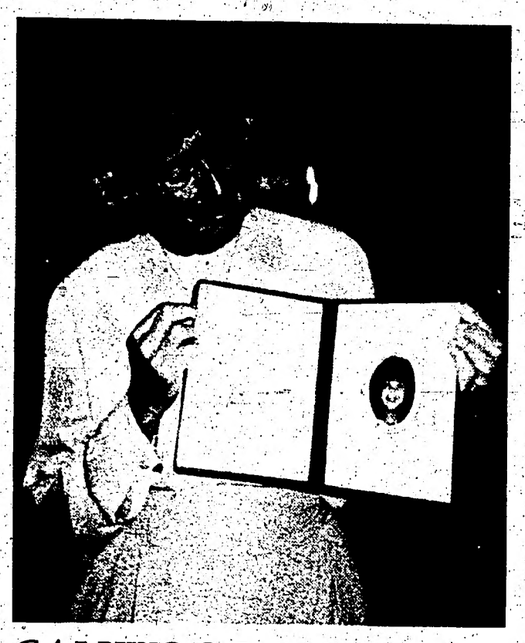
Admission is free and everyone is welcome. For more details, call 787-1631.

STUDY AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY

Students who are interested in studying at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem are invited to hear **Professor Immanuel Etkes,** provost of the Rothberg School for Overseas Students. Parents are also welcome.

The information meeting is at 7.30 p.m., Tuesday Jan. 29 at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 3080 Bayview Ave.

For further information, call **Tova Glass,** 485-8000.



CALLWOOD HONORED

Columnist June Callwood was named Na'amat-Toronto's Spiritual Mother of the Year, for her compassionate work on behalf of Toronto's troubled teens. A gift folder designating one year's spiritual adopton of a disadvantaged child cared for at a Na'amat day care centre in Israel, was presented to her at the annual Growing Up With Na'amat Dinner. [Mollie Rothman photo].

SCHWARTZ MEMORIAL LECTURE

Prof. Robert Alter, University of California, Berkeley, author of The Literary Guide to the Bible, will explain Biblical Imperatives and Literary Play, at the Joseph and Gertie Schwartz Memorial Lecture, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, in Room 140, University College, University of Toronto, 15 King's College Circle.

T'NACH STUDY GROUP

The T'nach Study Group will be focusing on the Book of Samuel Part I, Chapter XXXI with **Prof. Libby Garshowitz,** on Tuesday, Jan. 29.

The group meets from 8.15-10 p.m. at Associated Hebrew School, 3630 Bathurst St.

LECTURE AND DISCUSSION GROUP

The Tuesday morning lecture and discussion group, meets at 9.45 a.m. in the board room of Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst St. Babysitting is available from 9.30-11.30 a.m. The Jan. 29 session is to be announced. Call **Rhonda** at 663-3812.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

JEWISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

At the next meeting of the Toronto Jewish Genealogical Society, 7.30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30 at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave., there will be a panel discussion on how to chart your family tree and how to file your records.

For information, call **Annette,** 889-4237.

SOCIAL ACTIVISM IN THE 90S

Social Activism in the 90s is a lecture series sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada's Institute for International Affairs and the Adult Education Committee of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. On Wednesday, Jan. 30, Israel Advocacy: Myths and Realities About the Israel Lobby, will be explored by **Shira Herzog Bessin,** past national executive director, Canada Israel Committee.

All programs take place 8 p.m. at the synagogue, 100 Elder St. Admission is free. To inquire, call 633-6224 or 633-3838.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Lunch and Learn in Retirement meets every other Wednesday afternoon and is open to the community. There is no charge. Bring your own lunch, and coffee and cookies will be served.

The next gathering is Jan. 30. For more information, call **Tera Goldblatt,** 789-3291.

KABALLAH II

Chabad Lubavitch of Markham's adult education series with **Rabbi Avraham Plotkin,** continues on Wednesday, Jan. 30 with Depression vs. Remorse - how to handle a depression when it strikes you and how does it differ from remorse.

The lecture starts 8 p.m. at the synagogue, 55 Guardsman Rd. Thornhill. For details, call 886-0420.

HIV SUPPORT GROUP

Holy Blossom Temple invites you to the next meeting of its recently formed support group for men and women who are HIV infected and those close to them. This will be held 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 519 Church St.

For more information, call in confidence to **Cindy Hershon-Zackon,** 789-3291.

[Cont'd. on page 47]

CLUB CANADA

Club Canada, Yeshiva University in New York, has elected its slate of officers for 1991. The club provides cultural, social and educational activities for Canadian undergraduates. Seated, (from left) are Zev Korman, president, Cote St. Luc, Rabbi M. Mitchel Serels, club advisor and Jacob Blenshey, vice-president, Cote St. Luc. Back row (from left) Dani Blendis, vice-president for political affairs, Toronto, Bradley Somer, treasurer, Hamilton, Noam Goodman, editor of the club's publication, The Maple Leaflet, Toronto, and Elliot Press, secretary, Kitchener. Yeshiva University is in its 104th year.

Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 46]

TU B'SHVAT TREE PLANTING

Come out and plant a tree for Israel on Wednesday, Jan. 30 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the JCC North Y Branch. This is co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Centre, Jewish National Fund and Israel Youth Program Centre.

Thursday, Jan. 31

YOUNG JUDEA TRIP

Canadian Young Judea will be holding an information meeting for parents and participants regarding its upcoming delegation to Poland and Israel.

The directors of the program will be present to discuss all the relevant issues.

The meeting takes place 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31 in the Haifa Room, 788 Marlee Ave.

TEMPLE ISRAEL, LONDON

A No Free Lunch Potluck Dinner is planned for 7.15 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 2 at Temple Israel, 1062 Lombardo Ave., London.

Charge for this program is $3 per person, a portion of which will be sent to Mazon Canada to help feed the hungry. There will be a request for donations to cover membership in Shomrei Ha-adamah.

ROOTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM

The National Council of Jewish Women four-part series on The Roots and Realities of Anti-Semitism, continues at Council House, 4700 Bathurst St.at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, when **Dr. Morton Manilla** talks about Anti Semitism and the Holocaust: Symbols and Archetypes.

Cost is $10 per lecture, $7.50 for seniors.

To reserve, call 633-5100.

FOREST HILL LIBRARY

Films to be shown at Forest Hill Library, 700 Eglinton Ave. W., beginning at 1.30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, are Edge of Survival (1981) and Solitudes (1984).

AND WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

CAPE BRETON JEWISH CLUB

The Cape Breton Jewish Club is now a reality. Its purpose is to rally former Cape Bretoners and get together for social and other reasons. A special event is to be held in April. Watch for further announcements.

WINTER WEEKEND RETREAT

There is still time to register for the Israel Cancer Research Fund Young Associates weekend retreat, Feb. 8-10, at Deerhurst Resort, Huntsville. Call 787-0139 for details.

CAMP BILUIM ISRAEL 1991

Camp Biluim Israel is planning a meeting for parents whose children are eligible (age 17, in grade 11) for the Biluim-Israel-1991 program. The directors will be present to discuss the program, itinerary, policies, costs and other relevant issues.

They will have just returned from Israel and therefore will be in a position to share with you the most up-to-date information regarding the situation there.

The meeting takes place 8 p.m., Monday Feb. 4 in the Haifa Room, 788 Marlee Ave.

HEART AND STROKE CAMPAIGN

Heart and Stroke Foundation, North York Chapter, is gearing up for its February campaign. Help fight heart disease by canvassing for just a few hours, be an area captain, or assist with special events. You could help on your own or organize a group of friends.

Please contact the North York Volunteer Centre, 481-6194.

HEBREW COURSE

Let's Learn Hebrew, is a 10-week series sponsored by the Canadian Zionist Federation at 3910 Bathurst St., Suite 203 (at Palm Drive).

Ulpan Ivrit, beginners, starts 6.30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28. Ulpan Ivrit, intermediate, begins 6.30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29 and Chug Ivrit, advanced, commences 8 p.m. Monday., Jan. 28.

Registration is $100. For more information, call 398-6931.

NORTH YORK SYMPHONY

Toronto young composer **Daniel E. Friedman,** will discuss his new work, Overture, prior to its premiere performance by the North York Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, Feb. 2 at Minkler Auditorium, Seneca College, 1750 Finch Ave. E.

As part of the symphony's Prologue program, concert-goers are invited to gather at 7.15 prior to each Saturday concert to discuss the evening's program.

The concert, beginning at 8 p.m., also features Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 in C, and pianist **William Aide,** performing Beethoven's Emperor Piano Concerto.

The concert will be repeated in part, on Sunday, Feb. 3 at 2.30 p.m.

For tickets, call 491-8877.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue, 55 Ameer Ave., announces that minyan services are held weekdays at 8.30 a.m. and Mincha, Maariv, at 6.30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

For further information, call 256-1600.

AQUATIC EXERCISE

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care needs you to volunteer in the hospital's aquatic exercise program, helping patients in the hydrotherapy pool.

Hands-on training is provided. If you are comfortable in water and have three hours to spare every Friday morning, please call the volunteer department, 785-2850.

BAYCREST KOSHER CATERING

Baycrest Terrace now offers a wide range of facilities to meet your strictly kosher catering needs. Accommodation ranges from 10-500 people in a variety of rooms as well as spacious outside grounds for wedding ceremonies. The carpeted Fireside Lounge, complete with bar, leads to an outdoor patio.

Each meeting/party room is equipped with an appropriate sound system. Adequate complimentary parking is available in a well-lit lot.

For additional information, phone **Lorraine Sherkin,** 785-2477.

JUNIOR NCSY SHABBATON

Youngsters from grades 6-8 throughout Ontario can look forward to an exciting winter Junior Shabbaton as NCSY (National Conference of Synagogue Youth) of Greater Canada hosts its winter junior Shabbaton in Montreal at Adath Israel Congregation, Feb. 1-3.

The Shabbaton will feature NCSY's lively ruach and music, the opportunity to see Montreal and a lively Saturday night excursion.

For more information, call 782-4426.

SENIOR NCSY SHABBATON

Participants from across Canada will join in a regional Senior Shabbaton in Montreal at Beth Ora Congregation, Feb. 22-24.

This is a great opportunity for students to meet new friends and have both a meaningful and exciting weekend. Leaving Thursday night, Toronto students will have the opportunity to sight-see in Montreal. As always, with the NCSY ruach and great advisors, this Shabbaton will be one you won't want to miss.

To inquire further, call 782-4426.

GEDENBUCH

Gedenbuch, listing the names of 128,081 German Jews (West Germany) who were murdered or committed suicide for fear of deportation, has been donated to the Toronto Jewish Congress Holocaust Remembrance Committee.

Anyone seeking information about relatives or friends may call 635-2883 ext. 153.

FREE TORAH HIGH FOR TEENS

Kehillat Shaarei Torah and NCSY present the newest location for weekly classes in Jewish topics for high school students. Jewish Philosophy, Conversational Hebrew and other classes of interest to teens are offered on Wednesdays from 4.30-6.30 p.m. at the synagogue, 2640 Bayview Ave. Call **Rabbi Steven Cohen,** 229-2600 to register.

ART THERAPY INSTITUTE

The Toronto Art Therapy Institute, established in 1968 by **Dr. Martin Fischer,** works with many groups who have special emotional and physical needs. It is in desperate need of volunteers who would enjoy helping out in a congenial atmosphere.

Please call 924-6221.

DEPRESSION SUPPORT

Depression Support and Mutual Aid is a support group for people experiencing or recovering from depression. Ease your isolation, feel less hopeless and cope better by joining others who share your problem. Help yourself by getting a little help from your friends.

For more information, contact **Rosalyn** at 789-7957.

SELMA SAGE LECTURES

In response to popular demand, the Toronto Women's Division of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation is offering another lecture series by dynamic **Selma Sage.** The five seminars on Holidays-Festivals, to be held 8 p.m.

[Cont'd. on page 48]

HEBREW U. MEETING

Dr. Lionel and Patty Weinstein recently hosted a meeting in their Toronto home for 40 parents of students currently attending the Hebrew University. The meeting was addressed by Daniel Ben-Natan, Hebrew University's Director of Development. From left to right are Daniel Ben-Natan, Patty Weinstein, Dr. Lionel Weinstein.

SHARRE ZEDEK CONFERENCE

Among participants at the recent conference of the International Board of Governors of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Medical Center, held in London , England, were (from left) Sheila Dropkin, national executive director of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation; Renee Solursh and Harvey Solursh, vice-president and president of the Foundation; Toby and Nathan Starr of Toronto and Doreen Green, chairman of the Foundation's Montreal chapter. The conference was attended by participants from around the world.

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Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 47]

Tuesdays, April 16, 23, 30, May 7 and 14, will provide insight into the celebrations we often follow without full understanding or appreciation.

Lecture location is to be announced.

The series, open to men and women, costs $75 per person and includes refreshments.

Call 781-3584 for your reservation form.

YIDDISH CONVERSATION

Yiddish, with its warmth and spice, its apt expressions, should not be lost. Here is your chance to join an informal class to learn and practise "mamaloshn."

A series of 10 classes, sponsored jointly by the Toronto Jewish Congress Committee for Yiddish and North York School Board, to be held at Rockford Road Public School in North York, starts 7.30-9.30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23 and you can register then. If you miss the first class, it is not too late to register the following week, Jan. 30.

Cost is only $25, free to seniors.

For more information, call **Bonnie Kates,** 635-2883, ext. 155.

BITTER FRIENDS AT POSLUNS

Leah Posluns Theatre presents the Canadian premiere of Bitter Friends, a political drama written by **Gordon Rayfield** and directed by **Jordan Merkur.**

This fictional account of espionage and the emotionally complex issues surrounding American Israeli relations, continues through Feb. 10.

For ticket information, call 630-6752. Group rates are available.

MENIERE'S DISEASE

Are you suffering from Meniere's disease? Learn how to cope with dizziness, hearing loss, tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and stress associated with this illness. Join the Meniere's Self-Help Group.

Meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. in Toronto General Hospital, 8th floor, Room 663, Bell Wing (585 University Ave.) just north of Gerrard St.

For additional information, call **Jean Lee,** 340-3985.

ISRAEL MEDICAL ASS'N DINNER

To treat yourself to an enjoyable and particularly instructive evening, reserve Feb. 13, when the Canadian Chapter of the Israel Medical Association presents **Dr. Jay Keystone,** director of the Tropical Disease Unit, The Toronto Hospital, and Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto, who will outline The Ten Commandments of Travel Medicine.

This dinner-lecture is sponsored jointly by Hoffman-La Roche Ltd. and Janssen Pharmaceutical Inc.

The lecture and kosher dinner at the Park Plaza Hotel are free to members of the Canadian Chapter of the Israel Medical Association. Seating is limited.

For further details and to inquire about how Israel benefits through your membership with the Canadian Chapter of the Israel Medical Association, phone 781-9562.

BETTER BREATHING CONFERENCE

On Feb. 8 and 9 at the Hilton International in Toronto, the Lung Association hosts its annual Better Breathing Conference for health care practitioners and people working with those suffering from respiratory disease. The theme is The Environment, and featured leading experts on the topic include **Dr. D.V. Bates,** University of British Columbia, **Dr. J.D. Spengler,** Professor of Environmental Health, Harvard University and **Dr. W.S. Fyfe,** Dean of the Faculty of Science, Western University.

For more information, phone the Lung Association office at 864-1112.

LAW STUDENTS BASH

Osgoode Hall Law School Jewish Students' Association looks forward to its 7th Annual Law Bash, 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31 at The Copa, 21 Scollard St.

Tickets are $8 in advance, or $9 at the door.

For information, call 444-8220.

NOMINATE YOUR NY VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are special. Help North York thank the people whose dedication, caring and enthusiasm help provide a much needed quality of life. Nominate a deserving volunteer for the 1991 North York Volunteers of the Year Awards. Recipients will be honored at a special presentation in April.

To be eligible, nominees must provide a volunteer service in North York, they must have the equivalent of two years volunteer service calculated at an average minimum of three hours per week, and must not have received the award before.

Deadline for entries is Jan. 31.

For nomination forms and information, contact The City of North York, City Hall, Main Level, 5100 Yonge St. 224-6085 or The North York Volunteer Centre, 1418 Wilson Ave. 481-6194.

TEL-AIDE JEWISH DISTRESS LINE

Sensitive listeners are available to listen at Tel Aide, the Jewish Distress Line, 636-9610.

All Tel-Aide volunteer listeners have taken an extensive training course and are well qualified to listen. Tel-Aide is sponsored by Toronto Jewish Congress.

KEHILLAT SHAAREI TORAH

Practise Your Hebrew Reading - If you have the what-page-are-we-on-in-the-prayer-book blues, then join this Hebrew reading class. **Rabbi Steven Cohen,** of Kehillat Shaarei Torah uses the standard siddur as the text for Hebrew reading practice. Learn the structure of synagogue prayer services while you improve your reading skills, 7.30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Synagogue Skills Workshop - Kehillat Shaarei Torah and Rabbi Cohen offer a step-by-step course to walk you through the skills of participating in synagogue services. Brush up on how to put on tallis and tefillen, have an aliya to the Torah and follow the siddur, Wednesdays at 8.30 p.m. beginning Jan. 30.

The Mystery of Esther - What were Esther and Mordechai doing in ancient Persia anyway? Rabbi Cohen will help unravel the complicated and profound story of Purim that lies behind the superficial text. Four consecutive Mondays, beginning 7.30 p.m. Feb. 4.

Call 229-2600 to register for any of the above courses which are all offered at the synagogue, 2640 Bayview Ave. (below Sheppard).

at the JCC

The JCC North/East Valley Branch, 7015 Leslie St., offers adult duplicate bridge for members every Monday evening, 7.30-11 p.m. Cost is $3 per session. For more information, call **Luni,** 889-0813.

The JCC N/E Valley is starting a new group called Twentysomething (24-35). If you're interested in getting involved, call Luni.

The N/E Valley Branch, in conjunction with the young Russian Jewish adult committee, is planning a Beat-Those-Blues Dance at the Valley, 7015 Leslie St., 8.30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26. Cost, including deejay, concert by Baroque Jazz and refreshments, is $5 per person. Call Luni, 889-0813.

The N/E Valley branch is featuring Get-Fit classes at 7015 Leslie St., Tuesdays, Jan. 15-March 19 and Fridays, Jan. 18-March 22. Hours for both days are 9.20-10.20 a.m. Coffee, bagels and muffins are served following the classes. Cost is $45 complete once a week and $85, twice a week. For registration and information, call Luni, 889-0813.

Join the Singles Network on Saturday, Feb. 2 to go moonlight bowling. Call Luni for details.

The Singles Network is looking for volunteers to help in planning programs. If interested, please call Luni.

The N/E VAlley branch is now accepting registration for the Valley junior children's tennis and swim summer program (5-12 years). Call **Luni,** 889-0813 for more details.

Call the JCC Singles Hotline, 889-5101 for 24-hour taped information of events at the JCC and around the city.

The Jewish Community Centre of Toronto is looking for volunteers to fill a variety of positions in social, recreational and cultural areas. For more information please call **Mahra** or **Barbara** at 635-1880, ext. 265 or 365.

Back at the North Y branch, the JCC Original Singles 50 Plus are offering a program. Dance to the tunes of deejay **Todd Silverman,** 8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 26 in Room 221. Cover is $6. For information, call **Elaine,** 636-1880, ext. 378.

for seniors

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club, 470 Glencairn Ave., announces that ongoing programs offered in conjunction with the North York Board of Education include The World Before Your Eyes Via Armchair Travel, to be held every two weeks at 1 p.m. (next gathering is Feb. 4) and Joy of Music with **Ella Krylov,** every other Monday at 1 p.m. (next program is Jan. 28). Upcoming outings include the ballet, Sleeping Beauty, on May 14 at the O'Keefe Centre, and a two-week trip to Switzerland with kosher hotels, May 28-June 11. Bridge will be starting soon. For information on all activities, call **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth,** 224-5923...Remember the Golden Book to mark special occasions. Your donations go to Lanaido Hospital and Orphanage in Israel. Call **Dorothy Bloomfield,** 787-1526.

SENIORS HELPING SENIORS

Join **Seniors Helping Seniors,** and become a volunteer group leader. You will receive training which prepares you to teach small groups of seniors about healthy aging. In February, volunteers will be trained to lead workshops on home safety.

If you are 55 or older, enjoy meeting new people, and want a volunteer position offering challenge and excitement, join Seniors Helping Seniors now..

Seniors Helping Seniors is a project of Senior Care (Community Services to the Jewish Elderly) and is funded by Health & Welfare Canada.

Please call **Timothy Queck,** 635-2860, for more information.

Holy Blossom **Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group** meets at noon in the Temple, 1950 Bathurst St. There is no charge and everyone is welcome. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and cookies will be served. At the next meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 30, **Iris Vanek,** an international vice-president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, will speak on the work being carried on through Outreach. The topic is to be, Will Our Grandchildren Be Jewish? Call **Tara,** 789-3291, for information and for information on transportation, if needed.

The Canadian Israeli Club Aluma, for Israelis and Hebrew-speaking persons 55 and over, meets every Wednesday evening from 7.30-9.30 p.m. at the Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. On January 30, a movie, The Rainman, will be shown. For information, call **Avner Meiri,** 663-1443, **Oved Azuri,** 631-9794 or **Gitit Gilran,** 789-5131, ext. 2271.

The Jewish Community Centre of Toronto, Bloor Y branch, offers many exciting seniors' programs. Included are dancing, knitting, bridge, fitness and much more. To find out about these and other programs, call **Nurit,** 924-6211, ext. 36.

What's New at the JCC - The Bloor Y branch presents **Jack Grunsky** in concert, 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27. This will be an action-packed program of popular and original songs and rhymes for 3-10 year olds. Tickets, $6, are available at the Bloor branch. Group discounts are available. Phone **Frances Marantz,** 924-6211, ext. 26 for more details.

What Else is New - Want to start working out, perhaps take fitness classes, but not sure where you fit? Contact **Maureen McIlveen** at the Bloor branch to join the new program, Starting Up! -924-6211.

Fitness Enthusiasts - A Bloor Spring Aerobathon is planned, with proceeds to benefit the Jewish Community Centre. Call Maureen McIlveen for more information.

Senior Sinais' Golden Book is ongoing. Your donations for special occasions go to Kibbutz Yahal in Israel. Place your order with **Frances Malkin** at 226-3252 or **Ida Himmelstein** at 630-3862 between 7 and 9 p.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club holds a dance every Saturday evening from 7.30-10.30 in the club house. There is no charge for members, $1 non-members. Ongoing activities offered in conjunction with North York Board of Education include bridge, ballroom and line dancing, and fitness. Other activities are shuffleboard and woodwork crafts. For more information, call 636-7856 Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Friendship Club at Forest Hill Public Library features seniors' activities such as bridge and more, Monday and Tuesday, noon-5 p.m. Call 393-7706 for details.

Kosher meals for seniors in North York can be ordered from **The Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave.** For only $6.25 (Shabbat dinner $8.25) you can have a full-course home-cooked meal prepared salt-free, bland, diabetic or regular. To order, go to the Centre and purchase your take-out ticket and bring it to the Food Services office. Meal tickets must be purchased one day in advance. Also available are take-out frozen entree meals, soups in two-litre containers, and kugels (potato and noodle). Just come and pick them up.

Come to the Wagman Centre for Bingo, 1.30-3 p.m., in the Common Room, Sunday, Jan. 27. Enjoy classical music with **Andrew and Margaret Drag,** 7.30-8.30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29 at the Wagman Centre in the Assembly Room.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. The phone number is 225-2112.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club for Hebrew-speaking older adults, meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. For information, call **Helen Issenberg,** 225-2112.

A new and exciting program is being initiated for the more energetic senior. To be included are lectures, day trips and long tours for the mobile, energetic senior. Anyone 55 plus, is welcome to call **Barbara Zigler,** 225-2112, for details. If you are interested in sitting on a planning committee or attending future programs, outings and events, you must be a member of the Centre.

Touch for Good Health, will be explained by psychotherapist **Thelma Feldman,** at the next session of the La'Briyut Wellness Centre's health lecture series in the synagogue, 1.30 p.m. Jan. 24.

The Wellness Centre is sponsoring a Healthy Cooking Workshop with nutritionist/dietician

[Cont'd. on page 49]

KAHALANI HONORED

Michael Mitchell (left), chairman of the Young Leadership Division, Canadian Friends of Amal, hosted a reception in honor of Brigadier-General Avigdor Kahalani (centre), newly appointed director general of the 121 Amal Vocational Schools in Israel. With them is Adib Shami, leader of the 3,000 Druse in Canada, who noted that almost all Canadian Druse support Amal schoools. Amal has built and maintains special schools in predominantly Druse areas of Israel.

ORT CHAIR STARTED

Discussing with Barrie Rose (centre), the establishment of the Chair of Fibre Optics honoring the late Amelia Rose, are (left) Myer D. Brody, president of Ontario Men's ORT and (right) Israel Cohen, executive director.

Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 48]

Paula Ruch, four weeks 12-1 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25, in the Cultural Room.

Seniors Coping With Grief, is a new support group for seniors who have lost an adult child. If you want to share your grief, or would like more information about this group, call **Shari Cherney** or **Suzane Landry,** 225-2112.

Life After 50 - Meet the Challenge, four sessions with family life educator **Eleanor Miller,** are planned for 10 a.m.-noon in the Culture Room, Thursdays, Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7 and 14.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band, 7.30-10.30 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 27. Admission is $3 for members, $3.50 non-members.

New members are welcome at the Book Club. Meetings with group leader **Jim McDonald,** are held weekly in the Library, 1-3 p.m., Tuesdays.

New members are also invited to join the Creative Writing group which meets in the Library with **Sylvia Warsh,** 9.30 a.m.-noon, Fridays.

CHANUKAH PARTY

Seen attending a UJPO (United Jewish People's Order) Chanukah Party for Baycrest Seniors are (from left) Jewish Home for the Aged administrator Moshe Greengarten, Eva Brownstone and UJPO national president David Abramowitz.

About People

CONGRESS HONORS EDUCATORS

Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, has honored 10 persons involved in Jewish education in Ontario communities. Awarded certificates of Honor in recognition of many years' outstanding service and dedication in the field of Jewish education and the enhancement of Jewish life in the community were **Judith Ball** and **Tamar Boileau,** Thunder Bay; **Ginny Cymbalist** and **Carol Line,** Sault Ste. Marie; **Roni Krinsky, Fay Schmerling** and **Gloria** and **Rabbi Israel Silverman,** Hamilton; **Rabbi Meir Gottesman,** Owen Sound and **Rabbi Howard Finkelstein,** Kingston.

singles events

Singles Events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. ***Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.*** *For rates or to place an ad, please call Alan at 422-2528.*

Beth Tikvah Singles (35-55) invites you to join us for a "Greet and Meet Games Night". 7:30pm, Sunday, January 27. Beth Tikvah Synagogue. Refreshments. Cost, $5.00. Coming events; February 8, Oneg Shabbat Pot Luck (Dairy) at a members home. February 10, "Greet and Meet Social" at a members home. For information call 882-9057. 3468

Back at the North "Y" Branch, the JCC Original Singles 50 Plus... Dance to the tunes of D.J. Todd Silverman. Saturday, January 26, 8:00pm. Room 221. Cover $6.00. For information call Elaine, 636-1880 ext. 378. 3423

Superbowl Party at **The Sports Page Bar and Grill** (3080 Yonge). Saturday, January 26, 8:00pm. For more information call 764-8493. 3466

Metro Toronto Singles presents a singles night at **Earl's Tin Palace**, 150 Eglinton Ave. East. **Sunday, February 3, 8:00pm**. Cover $10.00. 222-7111, for information. 3459

Toronto Orthodox Singles Inc. presents a **Toronto Shabbaton** at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, February 22-24, 1991. Fee *$195 till February 1, after *$209. For furthur information contact Sharon Ganz 785-0761, Cheryl Kupfer 229-4426, Ruth Balofsky 764-5833. **(*G.S.T. included)** 3479

Mayfair West Racquet Club (Chesswood/Sheppard) is having its next singles party Saturday, January 26. The action begins at 7:00pm with a tennis round robin, and a dance following at 10:00pm. The cost for the tennis and dance is $18.00 for non-members, and $13.00 for Mayfair members. The cost is $8.00 after 10:00pm for the dance. Reservations are a must for tennis. Call Marcia at 638-1010. 3154

Adath Israel Singles (30-50 Years) announce another **Fantastic Shabbat Dinner**, Friday, January 25, 1991, at 6:30pm. Benjamin and Fanny Greenspoon Oval Room. Dine in the Shabbat Spirit- Join in Joyful "Zemirot". Prepaid reservations must be in the Synagogue office (635-5340) by Monday, January 21, 1991, 6:00pm. Rabbi Sheldon Korn, 635-5340. 3381

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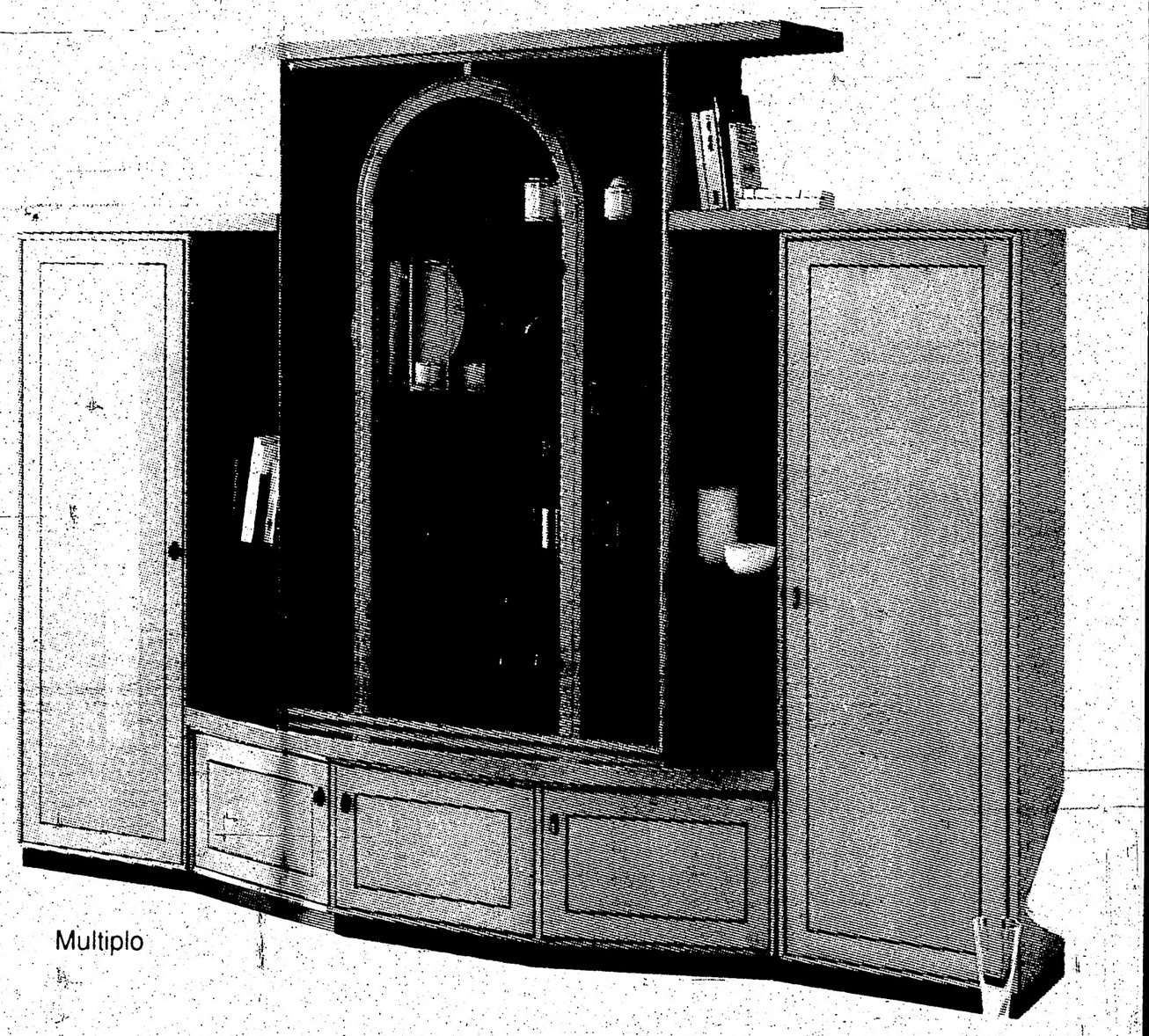

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Organizations and People

Centre helping to settle Russian immigrants

Delegation uses Shaare Zedek as model for hospital

JERUSALEM —

As a gesture of humanity despite the current political climate in Israel, Shaare Zedek Medical Centre recently hosted a 23-member delegation of doctors, nurses, engineers and architects who were interested in using the Centre as a model for a 300-bed hospital being planned in Hebron.

The group included the Mayor of Hebron, the military governor and an officer of the civil administration in charge of health in the territories. They were particularly interested in studying the physical aspects and the organization of Shaare Zedek's departments of emergency and maternity as these will comprise their planned facility.

Shaare Zedek is also participating actively in the challenge to settle the massive wave of Russian immigrants. With 1,000 olim arriving almost every day, many of them find their way to Shaare Zedek's varied departments . . . for them, it is a chance to have medical attention not available previously — in most Russian hospitals the medical technology and procedures are very far behind the West.

Men and boys who did not have the opportunity in Russia to undergo "brit mila" (ritual circumsicion) make this a priority and procedures are performed in the surgical day hospital.

Language symposium

Shaare Zedek was the first hospital to organize a Russian language symposium in order to help in the absorption of anesthesiologists. Director-General Dr. Jonathan Halevy welcomed them with the optimistic news that he believed all would find work, this being one branch of medicine in Israel in which there has been a shortage.

Department director Dr. David Ollschwang explained, in Russian, the licences needed and the types of equipment used, much of which was new to the Russian doctors.

To date in the Shaare Zedek program, eight Russian doctors have completed their six months of observation, 17 are currently in the program and a further 37 are waiting for a place to become available.

The hospital is making every effort to absorb Russian nurses. A one-hour phone-in program was held on Israel Radio from the ministry of employment at the initiative of head nurse Lia Radian which she staffed, together with two or three Russian-speaking nurses.

Nurses were able to call, in their native tongue, and get all the information they required regarding their profession. As well, three hot-lines were opened at Shaare Zedek with Russian-speaking staff manning the phones.

From these sources plus an advertisement in a local Russian newspaper, the nurses were invited to visit the hospital where they were offered work when licensed . . . one registered male nurse was hired immediately.

Dr. Y. Adler, head of Shaare Zedek's emergency department, demonstrates equipment for a delegation from Hebron. They wish to build a new facility there modelled on Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem.

Others, studying at an ulpan, were asked to work at Shaare Zedek Friday mornings on an orientation program which will lead to eventual employment when they are qualified.

During this period single nurses are even being offered subsidized housing if they agree to join Shaare Zedek upon qualification; some are even receiving financial assistance through scholarships.

A four-member absorption committee, formed to help new immigrant staff, assesses their needs to determine the most effective ways to ensure they enjoy their employment at the medical centre.

Searle Friedman founded Vancouver Jewish Folk Choir

By
MAURICE LUCOW

VANCOUVER —

The founder and conductor of the Vancouver Jewish Folk Choir and former conductor of Toronto's Jewish Folk Choir, Searle Roy Friedman, died here Dec. 31 at the age of 64.

Friedman conducted the Toronto choral group for about five years, taking over from Emil Gartner. At the time he became conductor, the choir had shrunk to about 17 voices but he built it up to more than 45 people before returning to Vancouver, where he had resided earlier with his family. While in Toronto he studied music at the University of Toronto, graduating with a Bachelor of Education. He also conducted the Beth Tzedec men's choir. He taught music in Bowmanville and St. Catharines, Ont. and in Toronto public schools.

The founder and conductor of Vancouver's Jewish Folk Choir for the past 10 years, and a teacher of music in the public school system of Surrey, just south of Vancouver, Friedman was widely acclaimed as one of Canada's foremost conductors and arrangers for Yiddish choirs. According to his wife of 40 years, Sylvia, his singers here were not all familiar with Yiddish, some were not even Jewish, but, she said, "they loved singing and they loved singing under his leadership." Sylvia and her three sons were all members of the choir, "and I was his greatest critic," she told The CJN.

Friedman wrote Yiddish folk songs and set to music verses by one of Canada's leading native poets, Pauline Johnson.

Born in Winnipeg, Friedman came to Vancouver with his family in 1946 and became involved in the musical field. He studied flute in Philadelphia and graduated in choral and ensemble conducting from the Hochschule Fur Musik Hanns Fisler in Berlin in 1970.

Tribute held

The Vancouver choir operated on an amateur basis and was financed by its members, with assistance from the Vancouver Peretz Institute. The choir entertained at senior citizens' homes and for other local organizations. It took part in the B.C. Choral Federation's Parade of Choirs.

As a public tribute to him, "A Celebration of Searle Roy Friedman's Life" was held on Jan. 20 where the choir performed under a temporary leader, and local musicians lauded his contribution to Vancouver's musical life.

Described by Sylvia as a secular Jew, a "nonconformist," Friedman had asked that when he died he be cremated and that no funeral be held. The family respected his wishes.

Besides his wife he is survived by three sons, Michael, Robert and David, and four grandsons.

Sylvia stated that tributes have been pouring in from all over the world where his musical abilities were known.

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Organizations and People

Boyd provides little hope school funding will change

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —
A delegation representing the Jewish community met recently with Ontario's Minister of Education Marion Boyd in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, but were given no indication that a change in policy on school funding was imminent.

The New Democrats haven't budged on their stated policy of opposing the funding, said Murray Segal, chairman of OJAEE, a Canadian Jewish Congress committee that lobbies for the government support.

But they were told that the ministry is open to reviewing its position against publicly funding religious schools, Segal added.

Segal, chairman of the Ontario Association for Equity in Education, said Boyd suggested that the Jewish community consider making representations to a commission on fair taxation that will investigate the tax system.

"I think she has begun to realize our concerns and has made a good suggestion," Segal said.

The commission might be an appropriate venue for the Jewish community to vent its concerns, since under current practice, parents of children in the Jewish school system pay provincial and property taxes that support the public system, but receive no benefits for their children.

Segal said the minister indicated that the NDP pays close attention to resolutions emanating from the party's policy convention,

Marion Boyd

the next of which is scheduled for March.

Segal said he has met with Shalom Schachter, an NDP member in the Lawrence riding, who is pushing for changes to party policy on school funding.

He said Congress is working to convince the NDP to change its policy on funding.

Segal said it was Congress' view that it is inequitable that Ontario, among all Canadian provinces and democracies around the world, is the only jurisdiction that favors one religious group (Catholics) with public funding while denying it to others.

Also attending the meeting were Congress regional chairman Eric Slavens, Bernie Farber, director of OJAEE, Charles Diamond, president of Toronto Jewish Congress, Sandy Brown, chairman of the Board of Jewish Education and Rabbi Irwin Witty, director of the BJE, Rabbi Zev Eisenstein, director of education at the Hamilton Hebrew Academy.

Boyd was joined by the deputy minister, Robert Mitton, and other aides.

Alpha Omega dental fraternity helps Soviet peers in Israel

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO —
Soviet dentists arriving in Israel will get a second chance to practice their profession thanks to the generosity of the international Jewish dental fraternity, Alpha Omega.

The fraternity has recently announced that it is starting a fund-raising campaign, Adopt a Soviet Dentist, to raise the money to retrain these dentists at Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University, the two schools sponsored by Alpha Omega.

At Toronto alumni chapter's recent annual charitable draw and seminar, held at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, Yehuda Kaufman, international president of Alpha Omega, said that "you can be proud of the role Alpha Omega is playing in helping these dentists. There are now 25 potential dentists enrolled in a retraining course."

Mitchell Levine, co-chairman, Canada, Adopt A Soviet Dentist campaign, said in a recent newsletter that "the cost to retrain each dentist will be approximately $3,500 Canadian funds. Our projected international goal is $500,000 U.S."

Kaufman, who lives in Israel and is the first overseas president of Alpha Omega, said that Alpha Omega members "are special people. They have the unique blend of community awareness and social activism. As commited professionals we must work together to accomplish our goals, a major one being to retrain Soviet dentists."

He said that "it is wonderful to see how the Israeli population is accepting Soviet immigrants. They are taking responsibility as a community and are not waiting for government programs."

He said that everyone is working in their own way to help immigrants find jobs, apartments and schools. "Many of these immigrants are educated professionals who learn Hebrew quickly. They are eager, willing and good spirited about overcoming problems."

Kaufman said that Alpha Omega is fulfilling its role by retraining dentists to meet the high standards of the western world. "Retraining allows these dentists to pass exams necessary to practice dentistry in Israel."

Stephen Zamon, president, Toronto Alumni Chapter of Alpha Omega said that he expects a good response from Toronto dentists to the Adopt A Soviet Dentist campaign. "We always do good work here."

In Toronto, Alpha Omega, with more than 800 members, has provided professional staff at dental clinics at Mount Sinai Hospital, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and in cooperation with other communal organizations, the fraternity members provide dentistry for needy individuals in the community.

Israel's survival paramount, says professor

Prof. Werner Dannhauser spoke at the University of Toronto prior to the outbreak of the Gulf War and the subsequent missile attacks on Israel.

By
GIL KEZWER

TORONTO —
Israel must "hang tough" in the face of Saddam Hussein's threats, a Cornell University political scientist said.

Addressing a packed audience at the University of Toronto's Sidney Smith building, Prof. Werner Dannhauser said there is only one issue in Israel today — survival.

An unabashed apologist for Israel, which he visits frequently and has extensive contacts across the political spectrum, Dannhauser called it the only country which shows grace under stress.

"The mood today is one of resolution."

Dannhauser accused PLO chairman Yasser Arafat of providing Saddam Hussein with intelligence that enabled Iraq to take over Kuwait and then despoil it.

He suggested the spurious linkage between Iraq's occupation of the Persian Gulf emirate and Israel's status in the territories it captured in the 1967 Six Day War was a deliberate strategem Arafat and Saddam had agreed upon prior to the Aug. 2 invasion.

Such a linkage is based on a "prodigious sequence of non sequiturs," he suggested, beginning with the "bizarre" statement that Iraq took over Kuwait to save Palestine.

Criticizing American foreign policy, he ominously warned such a linkage is gaining currency.

"Even those who are against it in the narrow sense are in favor in the broader sense. That bodes very ill for Israel."

American Secretary of State James Baker is "no friend of Israel, to put it mildly," Dannhauser said, adding Baker is the only U.S. Secretary of State never to have visited Israel.

Referring to the recent talks between Baker's deputy secretary Lawrence Eagleburger and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in which the United States asked Israel to disavow a military response to an Iraqi attack, Dannhauser asked, "What sort of world is it when a sovereign nation is asked not to respond to an unprovoked attack?"

(Ed. note: Following the outbreak of war, Israel did not in fact respond immediately to two missile attacks.)

Trying to end on an optimistic note, Dannhauser said that Israel should remain vigilant and hope that through the "mercy of time" the status quo will change for the better.

The lecture was jointly sponsored by the U of T's department of political science and Jewish Studies program.

P.E.I. author Steinfeld to speak at TJC event

TORONTO —
J.J. Steinfeld, the noted Prince Edward Island writer and winner of the 1990 Toronto Jewish Congress Book Prize for his collection of Holocaust stories, *Forms of Captivity and Escape*, will be guest speaker at a lunchtime meeting of TJC's book committee.

Steinfeld will speak on "Being a Jewish writer in P.E.I.: Is that a formula for success?" on Thursday, Jan. 31 at 12:15 p.m. in the boardroom of Goodman & Goodman, 20 Queen St. W., 30th floor, Toronto.

Space is limited. For details, call Rachel Rosenberg at (416) 635-2883, ext. 151.

בס"ד

The Pollard Case: "Let the truth be told"

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****
Seminar: On Not Knowing Hebrew: Kafka-Benjamin-Sholem
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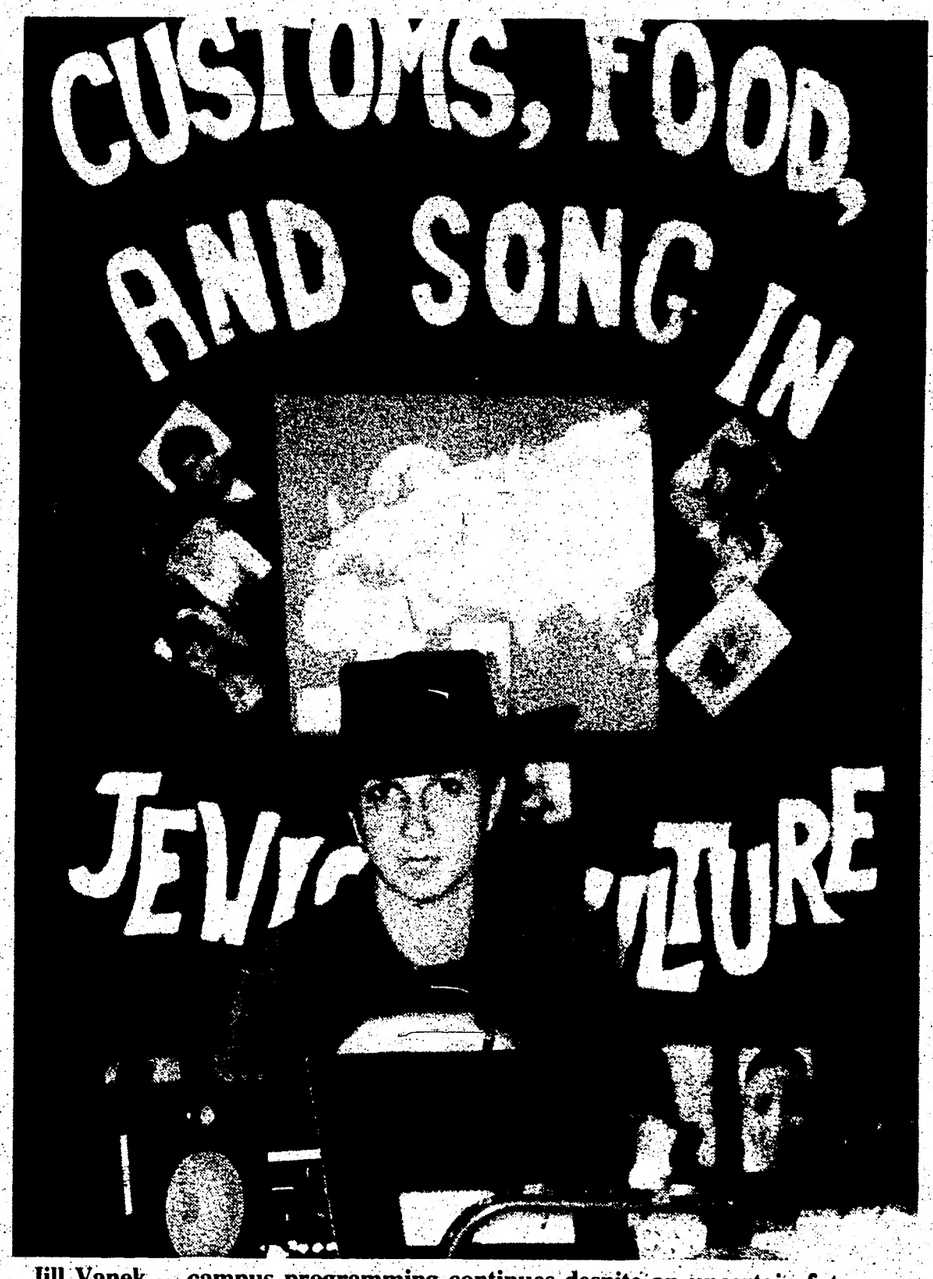
Organizations and People

JSU continuing programs despite an uncertain future

By
GIL KEZWER



Jill Vanek — campus programming continues despite an uncertain future.

TORONTO —
In the face of uncertainty stemming from the elimination of funding by B'nai Brith Canada (BBC), the Jewish Student Union (JSU) at the University of Toronto is continuing with its full slate of programs.

Last week, the JSU mounted a two-day display on Judaism in the lobby of the Sidney Smith building as part of the Student Administrative Council's cultural awareness week.

Jill Vanek and Sarit Goldman staffed the lunch-hour booth, which offered a variety of kosher foods, Judaica and the recorded music of Sephardi pop star Joe Amar.

On Tuesday at noon, the JSU turned the Sidney Smith lobby into Jerusalem's shuk with 10 displays by various Israel-based groups, hot food, and a concert by the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band.

The program was repeated on a smaller scale at Scarborough College on Wednesday.

Rabbi Moishe Silverman, the JSU director, said of B'nai Brith's $43,680 cut: "We are in a position that drastic situations could take place. We may have a building but no programs."

Negotiations are scheduled to take place shortly between B'nai Brith Canada and Toronto Jewish Congress to discuss a new funding formula for the campus organization, according to Jack Mintz, chairman of TJC's campus services sub-committee of its cultural services planning and allocations committee.

Until December, BBC had provided one third of the Hillel/JSU budget with TJC allocating the remainder. The Jewish Student Federation at York University is funded entirely by TJC.

B'nai Brith, which has an accumulated debt of $3.5 million, would like to sell TJC the Hillel building at 604 Spadina Ave.

Failing that, the property could be listed commercially, and Hillel left without a home.

Mexican Jews honor Shemen

By
CYNTHIA GASNER

Nachman Shemen

TORONTO —
The Central Jewish Committee of Mexico (Combined Judia de Mexico) recently awarded Talmudic scholar, author and journalist, Toronto's Nachman Shemen, the Fernando Jeno International Award of Literature for his recently published book in Yiddish titled, *Batziung Tzu Mentch — Jewish Attitude Towards Man.*

Rabbi Shemen explained that the two-volume edition is a universal theme of man's relationships with man.

Rabbi Shemen, who is the executive director of the Kashruth Council — Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth of the Toronto Jewish Congress, says that when he received the notification from the Jewish Committee of Mexico that he had been selected to receive the prestigious award for Yiddish literature, he was "very pleasantly surprised" as he was not aware that the jury was considering his book.

The highly respected rabbi is the author of more than 25 books. His scholarship includes interpretations of Biblical, Talmudic, rabbinic and literary studies.

He has received numerous awards for his writings including the Zvi Cassel award in Mexico for literary excellence for *Jewish Attitudes Toward Labour*, the J. J. Segal Award of the Montreal Jewish Congress for *The Roie of the Woman in Jewish Life, Literature and Lore*, and the highest award presented by the Canadian Jewish Congress for *Sefer Lublin.*

Rabbi Shemen, who came to Canada in 1930, was born in Chodel, Poland, a small town near Lublin. At 17, he was ordained in Warsaw and Lublin. He notes that Krakow and Lublin were the greatest centres of learning and Lublin was known as the City of Torah and Chassidism because the Polish Chassidic movement was founded there.

As well as receiving international recognition as a Yiddish author, Rabbi Shemen has numerous newspaper and magazine articles to his credit throughout Canada, the United States, Israel and Europe.

Among the diversified topics he addresses are modern-day concerns such as conversion, recognition and appreciation of righteous peoples regardless of their Jewish or non-Jewish backgrounds, and Talmudic thoughts on Jesus and his apostles and why Jews did not accept Jesus.

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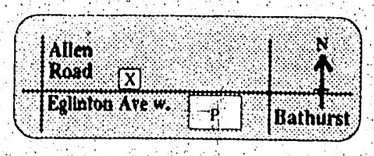


Fine, Morgan recruit players

Syracuse assistant coaches help create a top team

By
HARLAN C. ABBEY

BUFFALO — Syracuse University head basketball coach Jim Boeheim gets most of the credit for the team's winning record and high national ranking.

But real basketball fans know you can't win without great players, and assistant SU coaches Bernie Fine and Wayne Morgan are the ones who recruit those players.

Fine, who is now in his 15th year on the Orange staff, admits "only a major program" head coaching vacancy would appeal to him.

"Jim treats me well," he admitted, "and I like it here."

Asked what he liked about recruiting high school stars, Fine retorted: "Very little. It takes you away from your wife and family, to chase after 16- and 17-year-olds. But it's the most-important part of an assistant coach's job.

"You could be the best coach in the world and maybe over the course of a season you could win one or two games you should have lost. But if you don't have good players, you'll lose a lot more often."

In his recruiting pitch, Fine said, "I'm honest. I stress our academic record first — most of our players graduate, even if they have to come back in the summer. Then I stress athletics."

Fine and his wife Laurie attend Temple Adath in Syracuse. They are the parents of David, 4, Sheila, 3, and Sara, born in November.

Actually, the one-time forward at Erasmus Hall High in Brooklyn has had one major head coaching assignment: coaching the U.S. women's basketball team in the 1985 Maccabiah:

"It was really a weird experience. We beat the Israelis by 19 points in one game, and then they beat us by nine. First they were going to give the gold medals on the basis of margin of victory in the two games, then they decided we'd play a third game.

"But the Israeli team protested about their accommodations and the extra travel time to which they were subjected. So they told us they wouldn't show up for the championship game. Our girls decided that we'd support their protests, so we didn't show up for the medal ceremony."

Discussing the presence of Israeli players at U.S. colleges, Fine revealed, "I'm not sold on recruiting them because they don't stay that long.

"If they're good enough to play a lot for a top college team, someone will pay them a lot to come and play professionally back home."

Fine said he did not expect Israeli Dov Henefeld, who was an honorable mention All-America in his first year at the University of Connecticut (a rival of Syracuse), would return from the Tel Aviv Maccabi team to try to make the NBA.

Turning to this season's campaign, Fine said he didn't believe the early season Big East-Atlantic Coast Conference match-up proved the Big East was superior, even though it won six of eight games.

"It was too early in the season, most of the games were close, and maybe our teams just played a little bit better in those games," he said. "I think the two leagues are evenly matched; the competition was good for them and for the fans.

"As for our team (ranked third in the nation in mid-December), we're talented and we're playing well together. But we only have nine scholarship players (a team is allowed 15) and if there's an injury or foul problems, we're not very deep."

Asked about the number of players who have transfered from SU to other colleges, Fine said, "you can't force them to stay, they have to do what they feel is right for them." He indicated some players who left Syracuse wound up playing more minutes than they would have if they'd stayed — but others who left would have played just as much if they'd stayed.

Although only a six-footer, Fine played a forward spot in high school and has won acclaim as the coach of such Syracuse "big men" as Danny Schayes, Rony Seikaly and Derrick Coleman, last year's No. 1 NBA pick.

But Billy Owens, the pre-season All-American and leading scorer for the Orange, is different: "He's the best all-around player in the country. The other boys could only play the centre or power forward positions, but Billy can play any place on the floor. He says he'll stay for his senior year, but it'll be difficult. He'll have a lot of big financial offers.

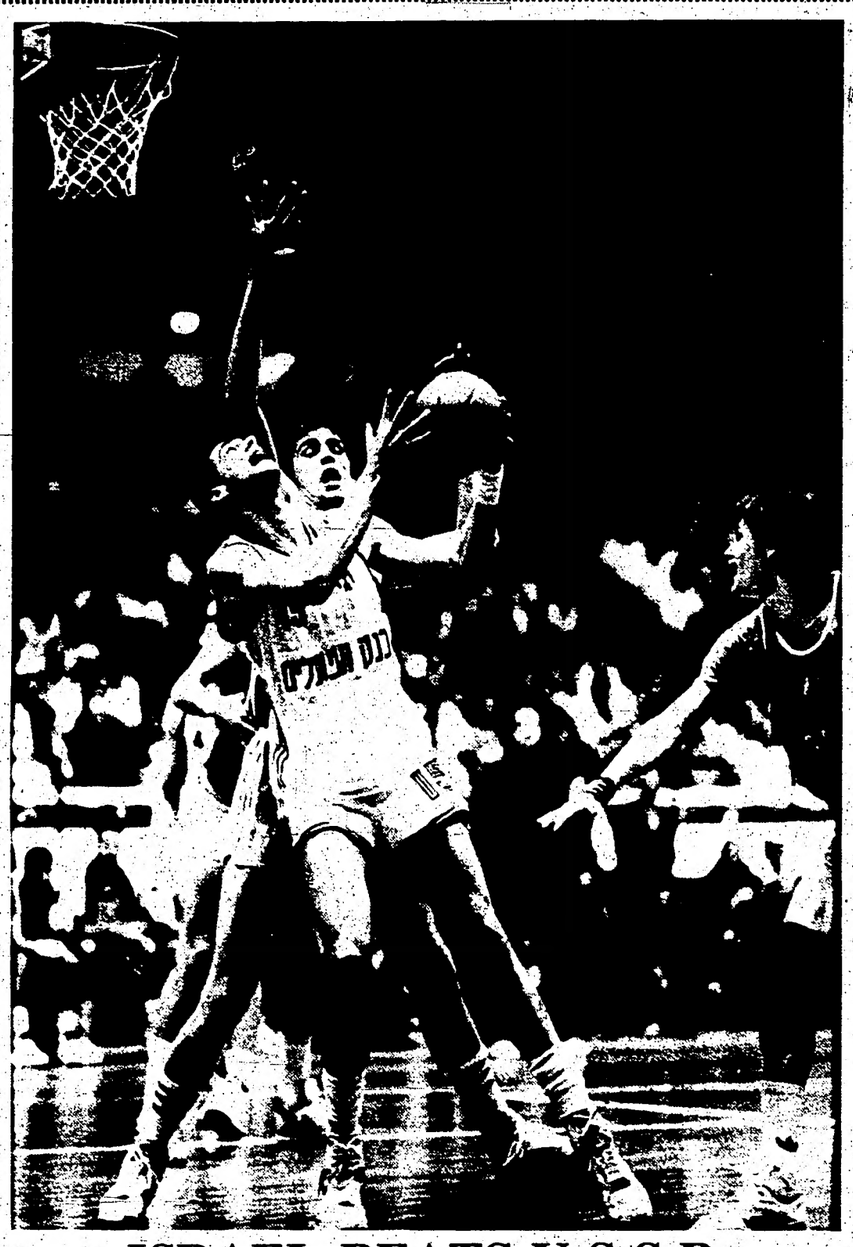
"LeRon Ellis (son of former NBA player LeRoy Ellis) is good and getting better. We expect big things of him. But sometimes he gets into foul trouble."

Fine met head coach Boeheim when both were students at Syracuse. Boeheim was a starting guard, paired with the great Dave Bing, and Fine was the student manager. He coached football and basketball at area high schools and when Boeheim became head coach in 1976, he asked Fine to join his staff.

The balding Boeheim "looks much older than I do," joked his number one assistant, "but I'm only a year younger."

Maybe that's the difference between being a head coach and an assistant. Still, Fine hasn't ruled out coaching for his four-year-old son, David.

Asked if David was working out with a small, spongy "smurf" ball, his proud father replied "David can dribble a regulation-sized basketball!"



ISRAEL BEATS U.S.S.R.

The Israeli national basketball team, sponsored by Bank Hapoalim, recorded a historic initial victory over the Soviet Union 79-74 recently in tournament competition in Tel Aviv. Hapoalim's support for the Israel national team marks the first time it has been sponsored by a commercial institution.

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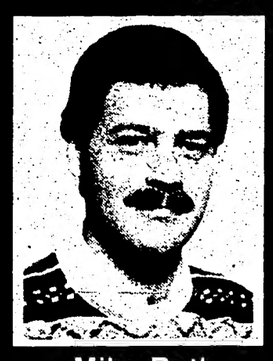

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Congregation Habonim and the Holocaust Remembrance Committee
are pleased to invite the public to a special premiere screening of
March OF THE LIVING
A film describing the dramatic journey taken by hundreds of Canadian teenagers to Poland & Israel, in the Spring of 1990, to mark two of the most significant dates in modern Jewish history — Holocaust Remembrance Day & Israel's Independence Day.
The story of the *March of the Living* is told by the young students, who viewed much of their experience through the eyes of the Holocaust survivors that accompanied them on their journey. The acclaimed 30 minute documentary was produced & directed by Montreal film-makers **Sid Goldberg & Howard Reitman,** who will be on hand to lead a discussion at the conclusion of the program.
Saturday, February 2nd, 8:00 p.m.
Congregation Habonim, 5 Glen Park Avenue
(1 blk. N. of Glencairn, 1 blk. W. of Bathurst)
Admission: Voluntary Donation At Door
The documentary film on the 1990 March of the Living is a project of the Jewish Education Council of Montreal, in co-operation with the United Israel Appeal of Canada, the CRB Foundation and the Jewish Cultural Association of Montreal.

Organizations and People

Jews must stake out positions on Canadian issues: Grossman

By
CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO —

Canadian Jews must establish individual positions on matters affecting Canada says the former leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario.

"If we do not, then we will get caught trying to live with the results of decisions made by other, more active Canadians, and these decisions will impact us as Jews," said Larry Grossman at a recent breakfast meeting of Holy Bloosom Temple Brotherhood.

Grossman said that when the current constitutional crisis is resolved, "even if Canada remains intact, Quebec will have already achieved new powers in areas such as immigration where they will be allowed to seek and settle only persons of French background, culture and language."

He said that this will cause a big impact on Quebec Jews because they will live in a province which may take in as many as 60,000 people from French-speaking countries with a "modest, to say the least, Jewish component. As well, Jews seeking to emigrate to Canada from non-francophone countries will have fewer positions to compete for, as Quebec reserves up to 30 per cent of all immigration for their own immigration."

Grossman said that another issue about which Canadian Jews must be outspoken is the anti-boycott legislation which the Jewish community banded together and helped bring about in 1978.

Larry Grossman

He told the group that now that the Ontario Science Centre appears to have violated this bill by signing an agreement with an Arab state to boycott Israeli goods and services, "I do not get the sense that the community is as outspoken or dedicated to ensuring that the Bill is enforced and that appropriate action be taken. This is wrong. If we are not vigilant and as outraged at the lack of enforcement as we once were at the lack of legislation, then we cannot expect to be taken seriously the next time we seek public action by the government."

He added that we cannot expect government to be diligent in enforcing legislation if we are seen to be quite passive about enforcement.

Grossman stressed: "This is not a time to be silent. It is also not a time for our formal spokespersons or organizations to state or argue the Jewish community view. But it is very much a time for us to address the issues that affect us individually from our own private pulpits and speak of these issues often and with passion."

On the issue of elections, Grossman urged the group to reject politicians and parties that pander to Jewish voters. "Invite your candidates to seek your votes because they are conscious of civil rights, great humanitarians, reformers and activists, because they care about the right international issues including the role of Israel in the Middle East and the importance of a Jewish state.

"Please, please, however, reject those candidates who try to gain your votes because they have made the appropriate number of visits to Israel, planted the appropriate trees or have the appropriate Jewish leaders' pictures in their pamphlets. All of that proves nothing and it tries to change the Jewish voter, who I hope is informed, from a broad-based, sensible voter into a simple issue, vote-for-sale bloc voter."

As for fringe political parties, Grossman said that although it is unfair to accuse them of bigotry, it can become a problem when the Canadian vote becomes too fragmented. "The more fragmented votes become, the more room one gives for more fringe parties. If the country continues to splinter off into narrow groups which get enough votes to be elected then the whole system will turn into chaos."

When there is chaos due to a lot of different political parties, "it tends not to work out well for the Jewish community, for small communities or for civil rights."

Grossman praised the Jewish community for having dedicated volunteers, some of the finest institutions and for its fund-raising abilities. "It has a stunning record but past records are not enough. In order to maintain a public mandate and to stay effective, one's relevance to today and tomorrow is always the issue. . . ."

He made a plea for Canadians to be more outspoken, more critical and more courageous. "Our job is to protect our positions even if it may cost some friends, business or votes. We must be prepared to take a stand."

She'arim helps learning disabled recognize their full potential

By
LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —

Self-confidence, a belief in one's own abilities and potential, organizational ability, and self-discipline are the skills She'arim graduates Elie and Sarah say they have gleaned from She'arim Hebrew Day School, a school for the learning disabled under the aegis of the Board of Jewish Education.

And their parents and teachers agree.

Both students now attend regular Jewish secondary schools — Elie is at Ner Israel and Sarah at Bais Yaakov.

The term learning disability, or learning problem, refers to problems with the mechanics of learning, not the ability to learn. Indeed, many of these children are quite bright.

Difficulties may include dyslexia, a difficulty in language processing or writing, or attention deficit disorder.

In the past, many of these children were considered lazy, or incapable, and shunted out of the day school system.

She'arim was founded in 1981 by concerned parents of learning disabled children and Rabbis Joseph Kelman and Irwin Witty, who believed that every Jewish child deserves the chance to get a good Jewish education.

The premise of the school is the instrumental enrichment approach of Dr. Reuven Feuerstein of Israel.

This technique employs strategies to literally teach people how to learn.

Although this may sound rather terrifying, in fact the children tend to enjoy it, particularly because they can see it work.

Parents are involved in the educational process in She'arim, and are encouraged to keep in communication with the school, and to work with their children.

Twice-yearly parent-teachers conferences are held, in which all the child's teachers are present. Parents and teachers exchange information about the child's life and progress, both in and outside of the school.

A child study team includes a social worker, art therapist, psychologist, and Dori Levine, the principal.

A social and life skills teacher from Jewish Family and Child Services comes in to work with the older children.

Of course, the regular curriculum of a day school is taught, from math, history and geography to Chumash, Hebrew language and Talmud for the older students.

But the school is not just academics. Special trips enliven the year, such as skating expeditions, plays, and, this year, Harborfront Environment Festival.

Enrolment is increasing, says Levine, as there is more awareness and understanding of learning problems in the general community, and as graduates like Elie and Sarah spread the word of the school's effectiveness.

Some children stay in She'arim for their whole elementary school careers. Others transfer out to other day schools or to the public school system.

This year's graduates, Levine says with pride, are at public high schools, CHAT, Bais Yaakov, Ner Israel and Or Chaim.

She'arim is located in the school wing of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, 100 Elder St., Downsview.

For more information, telephone (416) 622-8247.

Correction

In the Jan. 10 issue of The CJN, it was reported that Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla acquired a new Sefer Torah. It failed to mention that the Torah was dedicated by Isaac Anidjar in memory of his brother and sister.

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Thursday, January 31, 8 p.m.
Gabriel Ben-Dor
THE GULF CRISIS and the MIDDLE EAST: A VIEW FROM ISRAEL

Professor Ben-Dor, Rector of Haifa University, is also Professor of Political Science at Haifa. An internationally acclaimed scholar on the Middle East and Inter Arab Affairs, Ben-Dor is well known in Canada for his academic and community work during his time here.

Tuesday, February 12, 8 p.m.
Mark Heller
LINKAGE: THREAT OR OPPORTUNITY?

Professor Heller is Sr. Research Associate at the Jaffa Center for Strategic Studies, Tel Aviv University. Currently on leave at the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security, Heller is the author of a number of important works on International Politics and Middle East Affairs, including **The Palestinian State: The Implications for Israel**.

Tuesday, February 26, 8 p.m.
David Dewitt
IN THE WAKE OF THE GULF CRISIS: CANADA, ISRAEL and the POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Professor Dewitt is Director of the Centre for International and Strategic Studies at York University. Author of **Canada as a Principle Power**, Dewitt is also co-editor (along with Gabriel Ben-Dor) and contributing author of *Conflict Management in the Middle East*.

NOTE: If the situation requires, the topics may change, but the events will go on.

THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME - ADMISSION FREE

Greatest U.S. ice-skating duo

Blumberg, Seibert create innovative art on the ice

By MARVIN GLASSMAN

TORONTO —

Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers are not the only American dance team to be acknowledged as the greatest of all time.

In the world of figure skating, Judy Blumberg, and Michael Seibert are acclaimed by experts as the greatest ice-dancing duo ever produced by the United States and as one of the most innovative pairs in the history of the sport.

Since they first began skating together in 1978, Blumberg and Seibert have become five-time U.S. National Ice-Dancing Champions (1980-84), twice members of the U.S. Olympic team (1980 and 1984), three-time world professional bronze medalists (1985-88), twice World Cup Dance Champions (1988-89) and the 1988 World Professional Dance Champions.

"The most amazing thing is that Judy and Mike keep getting better and better," said Rob McBrien, who coached the duo from 1987-89.

"Their skating is characterized by a flowing style, incredible speed and a creative use of dance techniques. Their command of the (skate) edges set them apart from other ice dancers. Most skaters are floor dancers on skates. Judy and Mike are pure skaters who are innovative dancers," McBrien said.

In addition to their competitive achievements, Blumberg and Seibert have performed in a variety of ice shows and participated recently in "Skating II" at Maple Leaf Gardens as part of a 25-city North American tour.

They performed the classical ballet "Adagio on Ice" as their contribution to the two-hour show. "It's a new routine for us and one that has dazzled audiences so far," Blumberg, 29, said recently. "I always enjoy trying out something new and different because it's the new challenges that keep me going in my career. Performing has always been and will continue to be my passion."

Her love of skating started for Blumberg as an eight-year-old growing up in Los Angeles — even though no-one in her family had ever laced up skates.

"I was always fascinated by dancers and skaters," she said. "I first tried dancing solo. Then I tried skating with a number of other partners. Nothing really clicked for me until I started skating with Mike in 1978."

The two benefitted from top coaching and worked with members of the American Ballet Theatre to improve their creativity.

Their most memorable programs were the free dance numbers set to music from Astaire/Rogers movies.

Ice dancers Judy Blumberg and Michael Seibert.

Much like Fred and Ginger, they look like elegant artists whose movements are clear and uncluttered. They performed so well together and spent so much time together that many people had them romantically linked.

"Judy and I really care for each other, but only as friends," Seibert said, adding that "at one time I was thinking of converting to Judaism to be with her."

After winning the U.S. national championships in 1984, they were buoyed for that year's Olympics. But the judges, to the sounds of boos and hisses from the spectators, gave the bronze medal to a Soviet couple.

They turned professional afterwards and by 1988 emerged as the World Professional Ice-Dancing Champions.

Among their many fans, Blumberg and Seibert have won the hearts of the Jewish community. They have been honored by many organizations. In 1981 when they received an award from B'Nai B'Rith International in New York.

The only Jew to have won a national figure skating championship (let alone five times), Blumberg was recently inducted into the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in Tel Aviv.

UJA, Mount Sinai receive grants from foundation

TORONTO —

The Metropolitan Toronto Community Foundation has given grants to some of the city's most worthy causes, including Shalom House, Mount Sinai Hospital and the United Jewish Appeal, raising its total charitable contributions to over $300,000 for 1990 and to over $1 million in its eight years of giving.

The Foundation's chairman, Rt. Hon. John Turner, also presented cheques to representatives of a wide variety of community concerns including: Trees for Today and Tomorrow, Community Resource Centre of Scarborough, Portuguese Women 55+, Syme Family Centre, National Youth Orchestra, Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario, United Way of Greater Toronto, Wellesley Hospital Research Fondation, University of Toronto, and the Ontario Choral Federation.

The Foundation supports institutions and organizations whose work enhances the quality of life in the community through their initiatives in social services, health, education, the environment or arts and culture.

"It is these people and their organizations that lie at the heart of a healthy community," Turner said. "The Foundation is pleased to support their efforts to make Metropolitan Toronto a better place to live and work."

The Foundation was established in 1981 by a group of philanthropically-minded Torontonians. A non-political, non-ideological, independent charitable organization, the Foundation invests and employs the income from capital contributions received from individuals, families, businesses and private foundations.

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The Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ...is now in effect.

This Act covers all municipal corporations and a wide range of local boards - including those in education, police, health, roads, public utilities and conservation authorities.

Each of these organizations is required to have - for access by the public - a listing of the general classes of records and personal information.

While the law provides for a right of access to these records, limited by certain specific exemptions, it also protects your personal information. Each organization will have an individual - designated as the Information and Privacy Coordinator - who can assist you when making a request.

If, however, you are not satisfied with decisions, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (1-800-387-0073) will be available to review the case.

Information, about this Act, can be obtained from:

The Freedom of Information and
Privacy Branch,
Management Board Secretariat,
56 Wellesley Street West, 18th Floor,
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1Z6

(416) 327-2187

Ontario

Organizations and People

Free Torah High offers informal setting for learning

By
BILL GLADSTONE

TORONTO — Founded some seven years ago on the principle that "every Jewish kid should get a Torah education," Toronto's Free Torah High offers an atmosphere that is both serious and relaxed, according to its principal, Rabbi Nosson Westreich.

The school provides an informal setting for learning with sessions in Hebrew, chumash, history, philosophy and other Judaic subjects taught mostly by dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers. Pizza, donuts and other kosher party snacks are served after learning sessions.

"It's a traditional Hebrew school in terms of substance," Westreich said. "But it's unconventional because it's a fun place to be and our kids are self-motivated and they want to be there."

Supported by the National Council of Synagogue Youth, the school runs afternoon programs to interested students who are enrolled in grades 7 through 13 in the public school system. All its courses are free, with the exception of a new and highly popular bar mitzvah clinic for which a nominal fee of $100 is charged.

Approximately 75 students attend classes at its two central locations: one, at the Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W., in the Ohr Sameyach/JEP wing, holds classes Mondays and Thursdays from 4:30-6:30 p.m., and the second at the NCSY Centre, 3524 Bathurst St. (just south of Wilson), holds classes on Mondays only, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Classes for the second semester resumed Thursday, Jan. 10, in the north branch, and Monday, Jan. 14 in the southern branch. This month, registration begins for FTH courses at two new locations.

Richmond Hill classes will be held at Rabbi Issur Weisberg's Synagogue, Achdut Yisroel, 5 Shaftsbury Ave. on Tuesday nights from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Registration is on Jan. 22.

Kehilat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview, will be hosting the second new branch. Free Torah High classes at Kehilat Shaarei Torah will be given on Wednesdays from 4:30-6:30 p.m., with Rabbi Steven Cohen teaching one of the classes. Registration is on the 23rd of January.

One of FTH's most popular courses, Back to the Future, is based on the idea that in order to deal with the problems of the modern world, Jews must reach back into our historic treasury of time-tested Judaic lore. Presented by a series of guest speakers, the course material covers such contemporary topics as abortion, Torah versus Science, and Our Messianic Age, as well as more traditional fare related to Jewish holidays.

The Bar-Mitzvah Clinic was initiated in response to an overwhelming demand from the community, Westreich said. "There was a felt need. A lot of people don't know where to turn to give their kids bar-mitzvah training. We won't be able to service all the calls we get, so the course is going to be offered on a first-come, first-served basis."

The school's Machon Institute caters especially to students in grades 7 and 8 who may not be as advanced as students from higher grades. Its Chavruta program allows students to study chosen topics on a one-on-one basis with tutors. According to FTH coordinator Aline Benchetrit, the school performs a valuable community function by providing a *haimish* environment where Jewish youth can meet others their own age.

Any student or chavrutah volunteer interested in joining Free Torah High for its second semester can call the NCSY office at 782-4426 or Aline Benchitrit (FTH co-ordinator) at 225-9655.

EXODUS LEARNATHON

Eitz Chaim Girls' School principal Leibish Adler with students Tzipi Rockove (standing) and (from left) Bella Rotenberg and Chana Bulman, at the 1990 Operation Exodus Learnathon. [Alron photo]

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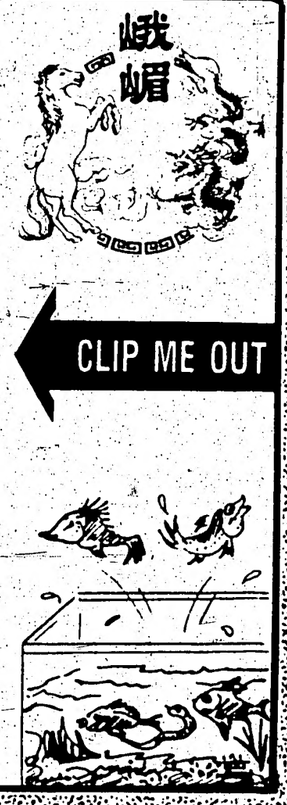

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Organizations and People

Brings fresh approach to act

Marks mixes, matches musical styles

By
PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

Chances are that when Johnny Cash set his hurtin' lyrics to a country twang, he never thought his unique sound would ever be matched with Led Zeppelin's heavy metal anthem, *Whole Lotta Love*.

Neither could balladeer Patti Page expect that her gimmicky tune, *How Much is That Doggy in the Window?*, would ever be screamed punk style by the Sex Pistols or presented as a reggae number by the Police.

But in the topsy-turvy musical world of Danny Marks, where the theme song from *Gilligan's Island* might as easily be played with a reggae beat or as a polka, finding new ways to play old standards is standard fare.

In fact, Marks' middle name might be "improvisation" (if it wasn't already Shalom) considering the fresh approaches he and his band bring to their act.

A rock 'n' roller totally at ease with the blues and country music, Marks' show challenges the memories of pop music buffs to recall the classic tunes the band punches out with complete aplomb.

They're so good at it, in fact, that just to add a little challenge, Marks, 39, and bassist Alec Fraser are likely to flip their guitars behind their backs and pick out the Venture's version of *Pipeline*.

While Marks, Fraser and drummer Gordie Skinnner are definitely an accomplished bar band able to slice through old favorites like ringin' a bell, Marks' show is as much an opportunity for the Toronto musician to interact with the audience, trade barbs and challenge them to name that tune.

Danny Marks

Though at one time in his storied career Marks would play theme songs from 1950s and '60s TV programs and ask the audience to name that show, he now spices up his act with country songs, blues numbers and r-'n'-r staples, as well as jokes and shtick that inevitably draw howls of laughter from the audience.

Hecklers and those who may have had one drink too many are not so much a nuisance as an opportunity for Marks to develop a repartee and disarm them by playing any offbeat songs they might request.

"I like improvising," he says, and while he admits to having some comebacks to fall back on, "coming up with stuff to fit the situation gives me the biggest kick. It keeps it fresh."

Marks first got a hint he liked to be the centre of attention as a 7-year-old at his brother's bar mitzvah.

"I really liked getting up and being the host," he recalls.

He later studied drama with Dora Mavor Moore in the '60s, and while in school, he found he could do shtick and speak on any subject with no preparation.

In the late '60s, early '70s, he played the Yorkville coffee house circuit (before it became trendified) with Edward Bear and developed an "aggressive, bluesy, hard-edged guitar sound."

After leaving Bear in 1971, he did session work and played with a variety of groups. Amazingly, the jean-jacketed and country-tied musician wore a satin ensemble when playing in the disco days.

He arrayed himself in satin while playing with Ricky (Rick) James and the Stone City Band, while dabbling in country music with other outfits.

For the past 10 years he's led a three-piece band, primarily playing songs from rock's golden age — the 1950s and '60s. "I try to remember the essences and flavor of the songs and interpret them," he says.

While he no longer likes to be known as "the human jukebox," a testimony really to his wide knowledge of rock songs, he's almost impossible to stump when he canvasses the audience for old tunes to play.

Adapting the theme song from Gilligan's Island to a reggae beat was one way of keeping the audience entertained, and though he doesn't remember it, this reporter could swear he even did the polka version of the reggae song, *I Shot the Sheriff*.

In addition to his stints working in Toronto drinking establishments and beverage rooms, Marks appears monthly as a guest on Arthur Black's CBC radio show, *Basic Black*, where he gives beginners instructions in making music.

Television viewers can also find him on Rogers Cable 10 hosting the Blues Guitar Workshop as well as a jam session known as Stormy Mondays.

Work on TV and radio is where he wants to take his career, but the band is still a fixture on the club scene and they'll even don suits and ties to perform at bar mitzvahs and weddings.

His versions of *Zum Gali Gali* and *Hinei Ma Tov* as surf instrumentals are always favorites, as is *Hava Nagilla* as a Jewish reggae song.

His irregularly-released "Danny Newsletter" keeps fans up to date with the band's itinerary and more information is available on the Danny Marks telephone hotline at 929-9358.

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TAX FACTS

Some Ontario Retail Sales Tax (RST) Changes You Should Know About

Recently, the Ministry of Revenue announced that the Province of Ontario will not charge Retail Sales Tax (RST) on the federal Goods and Services Tax (GST).

If you have paid RST on top of GST, you may receive a refund from your retailer.

The following changes became effective January 1, 1991:

- To offset some of the costs incurred by vendors as a result of the GST, the Ontario government is increasing the amount of compensation to vendors for the collection and remittance of RST.
- The RST audit and refund period has been increased from three to four years.
- The refund of RST on goods taken out of Ontario by tourists and on transient accommodation will be amended.

If you want to know more about these changes in the Retail Sales Tax Act, call your local RST office listed in the blue pages of your telephone book, or the Ministry of Revenue's multilingual Telephone Information Centre, toll-free:

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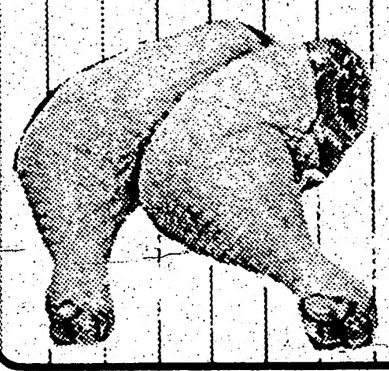
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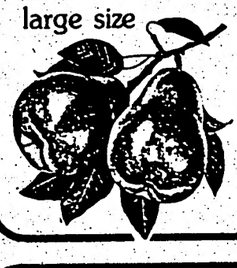
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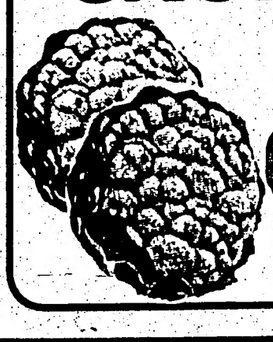
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Arts

Showbiz Mishmash

Jewish author was ears and voice for deaf parents

By
FRANK RASKY

Ruth Sidransky

Jordan Merkur

Barbara Cole

Susan G. Cole

Golda Meir

Bernard Ostry

Ruth Sidransky, the former hostess of CITY-TV's *Bingo Show* and Selkirk Cable TV's *Shalom Show*, will have you know, "I am bilingual."

Until the age of five, she was fluent only in Ameslan. It's the short form for the American sign language. It was the only way the Jewish child could communicate with her two deaf parents.

When she was enrolled in elementary school, little Ruthy was called a "dummy." Because her garbled speech was incomprehensible to an incompetent teacher, she was placed in a class for the retarded.

Happily, the perceptive principal soon realized that she was actually a bright achiever with perfect hearing. He moved her to the class for gifted children. And he suggested that her parents buy a radio to help her improve her speech.

"Once I started to speak English," the 61-year-old Sidransky told me last week in a laughter-filled interview, "you couldn't shut me up."

Now an eloquent charmer, with flashing brown eyes and a touch of poetry in her musical voice, she was in Toronto to appear on CFTO-TV's *Shirley Show* and to promote her enlightening and frequently moving new book.

It's titled *In Silence: Growing Up Hearing In A Deaf World* (McClelland & Stewart; 335 pages; $26.95). And with a first edition of 30,000 copies in the United States and Canada, her autobiography has all the earmarks of becoming enormously popular.

It was recently excerpted in *Reader's Digest*, and has been chosen as a Literary Guild selection. Paperback rights are coming up for auction. And three Hollywood studios have expressed interest in possibly converting her memoirs into a movie.

* * *

The potential audience keeps growing. In Canada alone, according to the Canadian Hearing Society, up to 50 per cent of our seniors have a hearing loss problem, and the numbers are increasing in our noise-polluted urban society. More than 2.5 million Canadians are hearing impaired and more than 200,000 are profoundly deaf.

"I prefer the phrase, 'stone deaf,'" says Sidransky in her lyrical fashion. "Stones may be mute, but they are warm in the sun; they feel soothing in the palm. It is a piece of the earth attached to God."

She goes on to say: "I do not know what the pedants mean when they write 'profoundly deaf' to describe the person who has never heard a sound. Deaf is deaf, and silence is forever."

They may have been stone deaf, but her parents certainly were not "dumb" as lovingly described in Sidransky's memoirs. She served as their ears and their voice while growing up in the slums of New York.

* * *

Her mother, **Miriam**, raged against being walled by silence, and nursed the illusion that color and sound were somehow linked.

"What is the sound of a yellow tulip?" she asked. In sign language, Ruth described yellow as being like the soft morning sun that melts winter ice. Red was loud like a summer sunset. Black makes the sound of crashing thunder. Blue was like cool running water on her hands and silver like moonrise.

Her mother responded in a fury: "I am angry with God! Why can you hear and not me, your mother?"

Her father, **Benny**, who eked out a meagre living as an upholsterer, transformed his frustration with deafness into Chaplinesque humor. He delighted in impersonating the silent movie tramp, developed a skill in comic mime, and taught Ruth that people's faces and body language, when observed closesly, were like books that revealed their interior souls.

He had an insatiable hunger for knowledge, and his daughter will never forget his plea: "'You are my dictionary."

* * *

During the 11 years she lived in Toronto, from 1967 to 1978, Ruth was a geography and history teacher at William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute in North York and a crusading activist for the deaf. Her husband, Richard Rosenberg, was well-known locally as a land developer and a foreign film distributor for the Canadian company that became Astral Films.

Since their semi-retirement to Pompano Beach, Fla., she co-founded the Jewish Community Association for the Deaf. She is proud of helping to create religious services for the deaf at Temple Emanu-El in Fort Lauderdale.

She is truly religious in her dedication to buoying up the spirit of the afflicted, and her warm-hearted memoir begins with the maxim from the Talmud: "A word is worth one coin, silence two."

* * *

This week's tip of my hat goes to the following Jewish creators in the arts.

Mazel tov to **Bernard Ostry**, the Saskatchewan-born former civil service mandarin in Ottawa. He was recently reconfirmed as chairman and chief executive officer of TVOntario and last week was elected chairman of the Shaw Festival for the 1991 season.

Barbara Cole, former Toronto Sun fashion photographer, is exhibiting 107 images, ranging from rickshaw drivers in India to British war pensioners, on display until Feb. 23 at the Jane Corkin Gallery, 179 John St. (979-1989).

Susan G. Cole (not related to the photographer) has written a feminist play, *A Fertile Imagination*, which will have its premiere Feb. 2 at the Poor Alex Theatre, 296 Brunswick Ave. (927-8998). She's an entertainment editor at Now magazine.

Jordan Merkur, who specializes in controversial dramas, is director of **Bitter Friends**, the explosive political play based on the **Jonathan Pollard** spy case, running until Feb. 10 at the Leah Posluns Theatre. My review will appear next week.

* * *

I bow out with this exit line from **Golda Meir**, former prime minister of Israel: "Don't be so humble. You're not that great".

Will begin March 5

Blendis to deliver art lectures

TORONTO — For Maxine Blendis, artist and art lecturer, studying Jewish history through art has helped balance out what she sees as the overwhelming emphasis in Jewish study of male over female contribution in the development of our faith.

Blendis will offer some of her insights on this subject at The Institute of Jewish Learning series entitled Biblical Portraits in which she will discuss how our Jewish traditional figures are depicted. The series will run from March 5 to April 16.

It's a theme that came strikingly home to Blendis when she was asked to give a talk on Chanukah in art at the opening of the exhibition Legends in Light at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue.

One of Blendis' interests is the role of women in Biblical history. She developed this theme in her lecture on the Art of Chanukah.

Recalling that some Chanukiot and manuscripts have a figure of Judith along with Judah HaMaccabee, Blendis wondered why and if it had anything to do with the fact that women can light Chanukah candles for men, one of the few mitzvot, she believes, where women can exempt men.

In her subsequent search through Jewish and Western art for representations of Judith that helped her realize that Judith is often depicted as the counterpart of Judah, of good in the form of personal piety, and bravery, triumphing over evil to restore faith and justice.

"It's one of the several such equations featured in Western art," Blendis said. Another equates Judith with David, in that they both decapitate the enemy of Israel.

At a time when women's role in Judaism is being debated as never before," Blendis said, "I find art a great starting point to re-evaluate women's place in Judaism. The imahot (matriarchs) have been greatly neglected in our studies, but they are favorite subjects with artists."

Blendis found, however, that Western artists sometimes misunderstood or confused the texts on which they based their images. And that, Blendis explained, sent her delving into the original texts to try to figure out where they went wrong. For example, Blendis pointed out Judith was often confused with Salome.

To get to the facts, Blendis reread the Book of Judith in The Apocrypha, where she is described in exemplary terms. Judith's song of triumph, after the death of Holofernes, Nebuchadnezzar's commander in chief, whose army was on the threshold of victory over the Israelites and whom Judith decapitated, Blendis described as quite the equal of the songs of Miriam and Devorah.

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* * *

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Arts

Sally Field and Alfred Molina in Not Without My Daughter.

Western, Islamic values collide in adaptation of Mahmoody's tale

Film

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Islamic fundamentalism has exerted a considerable hold on the Middle East since the fall of the monarchy in Iran and its replacement by a fundamentalist regime.

Nowhere in the region is this influence more keenly felt than in Iran, which has been convulsed by a puritanical revolution, and wracked by a wasteful eight-year war with its historic enemy, Iraq.

Brian Gilbert's *Not Without My Daughter* skims over this jagged landscape, portraying the travails of an American Christian woman whose Iranian husband held her and her young daughter Mahtob in Islamic Iran against their wishes.

Filmed in Israel, *Not Without My Daughter* was adapted from a book by Betty Mahmoody. Hers is a compelling story, competently translated into film. In 1984, seven years after her marriage to an Iranian-born doctor, Mahmood (Moody) Mahmoody, the Mahmoodys went to Teheran for a two-week holiday. Betty didn't want to go to Iran, a country seething with anti-American sentiment. But Moody was homesick for his family, and Betty couldn't say no. On the eve of their departure from Iran, Moody told Betty that they weren't going back. Shocked and disconsolate, Betty plotted to find a way to leave a society she viewed as alien, backward, primitive and unsympathetic.

Betty, as played by the always marvellous Sally Field, is depicted as a normal middle-class housewife who loves her family and her home. The Mahmoodys live in smalltown America, their house set by a shimmering lake in rural Michigan. As *Not Without My Daughter* opens, Betty is shown as the perfect hostess, happily serving lemonade to her parents and her husband (Alfred Molina) on a lovely summer day.

Although Moody is thoroughly Americanized, he feels slighted as an Iranian in the United States. In an early scene encapsulating his sour mood, he overhears a couple of insensitive doctors making disparaging remarks about Iran, further reinforcing his alienation.

Promising Betty on the "holy Koran" that their vacation in Iran will be short and sweet, Moody takes his family to Teheran. Almost immediately, Betty has a foreboding premonition that something is amiss — the black, enveloping chador she must don at the airport, the militant, militarized atmosphere that assails her, the disapproving clicks from Moody's self-righteous sister.

Under the influence of his pious relatives, Moody re-embraces Islam. When Betty — an avowed Christian who wears a silver crucifix — learns that Moody intends to stay in Iran, she rebels — precipitating an awesome row. As Moody grows increasingly intolerant of her attitude, their relationship sharply deteriorates. Betty, determined to go back to Michigan with Mahtob (Sheila Rosenthal), secretly seeks a solution to her problem.

Now playing at Famous Players theatres, *Not Without My Daughter* is more than just a profile of a collapsing marriage. It's a portrait of Western and Islamic cultural and religious values in collision, of Betty's clash with a system which keeps women in a state of benevolent submission.

Plainly, *Not Without My Daughter* is unsympathetic to Iran's harsh brand of Islam. Most of Moody's relatives, particularly his sister, appear as remote and even rasping. But not all the Iranians here come off badly. Betty's escape from Iran, after all, is masterminded and financed by kind Iranians at odds with the Islamic government.

Clearly, the film makes no attempt to "explain" the tenets of Islamic fundamentalism, and thus the average viewer will not be enamored of it. There may be accusations that *Not Without My Daughter* defames or diminishes Islam. In fact, it doesn't. It zeroes in on objectionable aspects of an otherwise great religion, and also highlights Iran's ugly conscription methods (teenagers are whisked off the street, to be used as cannon fodder in the war against Iraq.) There is one explicit reference to Iraq. During an Iraqi air raid, Moody blames the United States for backing Iraq, an ironic observation in light of the Gulf crisis.

SNIPPETS

Hidden Agenda is simply one of the finest political thrillers since *Z*. Directed in a semi-documentary style by Ken Loach, it deals with the unresolved Irish question and its attendant violence, the role of British forces in Northern Ireland and the assassination of an American civil rights lawyer investigating allegations of brutality. Starring Francis McDormand and Brian Cox, *Hidden Agenda* is tough and taut, and raises relevant issues about the nature of nationalism and democracy. It's at Cineplex Odeon theatres.

Torah's place in Jewish history explored by Cleveland rabbi

Books

By BERNARD BASKIN

The Story of Scripture, by Daniel Jeremy Silver (Basic Books).

How basic is the Torah, the Five Books of Moses, to Judaism? The answer seems obvious. The Torah is the most revered possession of the Jewish people. From its commandments, ethical ideals and teachings flow the essence of Jewish belief.

A portion of the Torah is read regularly in a synagogue and its text has been meticulously studied and piously taught for over two millennia. Indeed, for traditional Jews, the Pentateuch derives from Sinai as a work of divine revelation.

Daniel Silver, until his recent death the rabbi of the Temple in Cleveland, Ohio, challenges this widely held notion of the supremacy of the Torah in Jewish history and tradition. He points out that according to modern biblical scholarship, the Torah was assembled and edited at the time of Ezra about 2,500 years ago.

Yet Judaism had existed for 1,000 or so years previously without any authorized scripture, and during that era enjoyed perhaps its most creative period. "Its religious leaders such as Moses and the other early prophets, all of them probably illiterate, emphasized a living tradition rather than a text."

Ancient Israel developed its religion in oral form long before it set down any kind of scripture. "Traditions and teachings were inscribed in its people's minds and hearts. Later, some began to write down on papyrus and parchment what they heard — a selection of writings that in centuries to come would be part of a published anthology millions would call scriptures and declare to be inspired and sacred."

Not long after the Torah was written down, a second scripture gradually developed that was known as the Oral Law, or Talmud. It turned out that the original scripture had to be properly understood and interpreted, and substantially supplemented with new laws and concepts. Rabbinic interpretation, for example, effectively cancelled Torah laws that stipulated death for many offences by surrounding such cases with complex legal requirements almost impossible to meet.

Actually, in rabbinic thought, the authority of the sage was at least equal to, if not higher than, that of all the prophets except Moses. We find such Talmudic statements as this: "Since the destruction of the Temple, prophecy was taken away from the prophets and given to the sages." One teacher declared that the Covenant was made at Sinai only on account of the oral Torah.

Silver concludes, "No historic, time-informed study can accept the proposition that Judaism is simply the sum of its Torah books, or that Jewish disciplines and values are fully set out in these books. That was not the intention of the prophets or sages or the rabbis for whom the book was a tool, not a totality."

If Judaism flourished for a thousand years before the creation of the Torah, and if Jewish sages created an elaborate structure of Talmud and Midrash to keep the Torah pertinent and alive, how should we regard the Torah in our time when the understanding of scripture as the word of God has been undermined by the impact of secular thought? "What happens to a faith when large segments of its community no longer trust or believe its scriptures?"

Silver asserts that the Torah's enduring value is as a chronicle of the idea of ethical living and as a record of a singular nation's attempt to build a way of life on the basis of original ideas and new structures. It remains the most significant symbol of Judaism's unique and consistent teachings and authority.

But "Judaism is not and never has been just the teachings of a set of authorized books. The text is not our homeland; life is. Except under rare circumstances in Jewish history, the texts did not define life. Far more than has generally been recognized, life defined the texts."

The author writes clearly and with manifest scholarship and authority. His account of the origins and development of the Torah, its place in the tradition and its significance for our time is both bold and provocative.

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Arts

Running at Royal Alexandra

Jacobi brings Kean to life in Jewish bravura style

The Lively ARTS

By
FRANK RASKY

Brooks Atkinson, drama critic of the New York Times, adored the bigger-than-life, bravura-style acting of the Jewish stars strutting through the Yiddish versions of Shakespearean classics in the 1930s.

"You always knew," he wrote admiringly of Maurice Schwartz, Jacob Adler and Boris Thomashefsky, "that you were in a theatre and not a library."

If you want a taste of what he meant, I urge you to catch *Kean*, running until Feb. 16 at the Royal Alexandra Theatre (872-3333).

Originally written by the elder Alexandre Dumas in 1836, and updated in 1953 by Jean-Paul Sartre, it's the wittiest romantic farce I've seen in years. I guarantee it will produce at least a dozen belly laughs and perhaps a few tears.

It's an uproarious portrait of Edmund Kean (1787-1833), the London-born tumbler, who rose to become the most influential English actor of his day. Samuel Taylor Coleridge, the post-critic, said that watching him perform was like reading Shakespeare by "flashes of lightning."

Kean was the first actor to reject both the polite, restrained style of acting then current and the depiction of Shakespeare's Shylock as a depraved villain. Instead, Kean introduced passion and compassion to the stage. And he presented the Jewish moneylender sympathetically as a justly resentful man, forced by his Christian tormentors to become an avenger.

But Kean was no sobersides. We also see the boozer and womanizer as a 19th-century John Barrymore of Rabelaisian energies and appetites.

Out of sheer gusto, he somersaults over a sofa; he leaps into the arms of his friend, the Prince of Wales (Nicholas Farrell). One minute he boasts to a female conquest (Sarah Woodward) how lucky she is to be seduced by a genius like himself. The next moment he is brooding to his valet Solomon (Ian McNeice) like any insecure actor, "Am I burned out? Does the audience still love me?"

And he tosses off self-disparaging witticisms as though they were a string of firecrackers: "Kean is not a man. He's an actor. What is an actor? A mirage!"

Derek Jacobi, in the title role, is very much an actor of the Olivier and Yiddish theatre school of histrionics. He headed the same brilliant cast during its record-breaking run of 16 weeks at London's Old Vic, directed by David Mirvish's 24-year-old wunderkind, Sam Mendes. Altogether, it's a glorious theatre-going occasion you shouldn't miss.

Derek Jacobi and Sarah Woodward are brilliant in backstage a..e about the 19th-century actor, Kean, at Royal Alexandra.

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Starring in Oh Kay! are (from left) Gregg Burge, Stanley Wayne Mathis and Kevin Ramsey.

Revival of Oh Kay:

Show glows — doesn't shine

By
GERRY MORRIS

NEW YORK —

In its time this 1926 Gershwin production was one of those jazz-age musicals prevalent in the 1920s and 1930s, with an inane script but with a great musical score featuring such enchanting standards as *Maybe, Do, Do, Do* and *Clap Yo' Hands*. A libretto in those days was just a hook on which to hang a score, but audiences didn't mind.

It was veteran showman David Merrick (this is his 88th Broadway production) and his director-choreographer Dan Siretta who came up with the revival idea of relocating *Oh Kay* in the black upper-crust section of swinging Harlem in order to display the talents of a youthful all-black cast.

The concept is not entirely new to Merrick, who brought black performers Pearl Bailey and Cab Calloway & Company into his long-running *Hello Dolly* a quarter century ago, a bold piece of casting that ultimately proved commercially successful after a controversial reception. Known for his Broadway mastery, Merrick has missed the mark with *Oh, Kay*, a weak-minded Prohibition tale of goofy bootleggers running amok in high society.

The original *Oh, Kay* made England's Gertrude Laurence an American star with her memorable treatment of George and Ira Gershwin's plaintive melody *Someone To Watch Over Me*. It broke the heart and stopped the show. In the reworked all-black version, newcomer Angela Leek's interpretation simply broke my heart.

Other than a closing notice there is not much to stop this show, except for an insufficient display of sole and ensemble dancing featuring the Black Bottom, The Cakewalk and The Shimmy, and some highly respectable tap dancing by Gregg Burge, Kyme, Stanley Wayne Mathis and Kevin Ramsay.

Despite the score and the snappy dance sequences, the eager but mediocre cast has difficulty pumping life into James Racheff's dull adaptation of a book by Guy Bolton and P. G. Wodehouse. The lack of jokes and the silly, charmless story are enough to inspire some unexpected moments of slumber. Believe me, I speak from experience.

Of course any musical mounted by a showman as gifted as Merrick must exhibit some shimmer. The production looks good, with tasteful Art Deco sets by Kenneth Foy and costumes by Tony Award-winning Theoni V. Aldredge which are both sumptuous and glittery.

Merrick's idea of reviving a nostalgia musical seemed plausible enough considering the success of such old-fashioned Broadway treasures as *No No Nanette, On Your Toes, My One & Only, 42nd Street*, and *Anything Goes*. These featherweight shows, unlike *Oh, Kay*, triumphed because of a deeper respect for star quality and the grand show tunes. They benefitted from infinitely more spirited direction and sharper adaptation.

Appearing at Richard Rodgers Theatre, 226 West 46th St. For tickets call Ticketron 212-246-0102.

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Srul Glick a dominant force on Canada's musical scene

By
PAULA CITRON

TORONTO —

"It's ironic that I find myself among the avant garde composers today," laughs Srul Irving Glick. "After 30 years of being considered out of the mainstream because I wrote accessible music, suddenly I'm in fashion."

Glick is referring to the neo-romantic movement in music which has, over the past decade, eclipsed the atonal dissonant trends that dominated Canadian contemporary music since the Second World War.

Neo-romanticism, with its emphasis on melodic line and overt emotion, best sums up the type of composition in which Glick has always felt the most comfortable.

At age 56, Glick is one of Canada's most prolific composers. Singers John Vickers and Maureen Forrester, violinist Stephen Staryk, cellist Ofra Harnoy, saxophonist Paul Brodie, the Orford String Quartet, the Canadian Brass, the Elmer Iseler Singers, and the Mendelssohn Choir are just some of the luminaries in Canadian music who have commissioned and/or performed Glick works all over the world.

Last November, the Syrinx concert series mounted a full evening of Glick's chamber music at Toronto's St. Lawrence Centre. This coming April, National Public Radio in the United States will air a program featuring Glick and his music, while in January, 1992, his commission for the Toronto Symphony to honor Victor Feldbrill's 50 years as a conductor will have its premiere.

Glick has also been a dominant musical force in both the Toronto and Canadian musical scenes. Since 1969, he has been choir director and composer-in-residence at Beth Tikvah Synagogue. He has also taught at the Conservatory and York University.

Nationally, Glick was an influential producer of serious music at the CBC for 24 years until he left the corporation in 1986. His work at the CBC in production, recordings and programming won him a Juno Award and four Grands Prix du Disque.

Toronto-born Glick grew up in a home surrounded by two very different kinds of music, and his compositions are a synthesis of these parallel influences — the nusach of his chazzan father and the classical music of his brother Norman.

"Jewish music played a big part in my life. Both my mother and father sang to me as a child, and I have strong memories of music in both shul and cheder. Around the house, you could always hear my father practising the cantorial nusach, the improvisational prayer on a single line melody.

"When I was 11, I joined my dad's choir. I remember looking at the congregation rapt with attention, some even in tears when my father davened, and I realized that music had the power to touch the human psyche.

"The Jewish music in my life set 'the tone' of what music is for me. When I became a composer, I knew I couldn't write dry academic music; I wanted to reach people by communicating to them on the deepest emotional level."

When he was 15, Glick declared that he wanted to become a composer. "When I look back, I had enormous chutzpah. I was taking a Grade 9 music course and we were introduced to the great composers in order to learn the language of music. I heard a Haydn symphony and I said: 'I can do that. I can write music.'

"It was mind-boggling how rich and intricate music was — to hear what was going on in someone's head and how he brought it out into the open in an enormously complex fashion. I wanted to become a composer in order to express the music I was hearing in my head."

When Glick entered the music program at the University of Toronto, he took music education as a credit because, as he was told, one couldn't make a living writing music and being a high school teacher would bring in a salary.

"After one year, I knew I didn't want to teach," says Glick. "I was going to take my chances in composing. I believe that you shouldn't wait to do what you love; if you do it, something will come out of it!"

Norman had advised his brother to contact the best teacher of composition in the department and this led the fledgling composer to John Weinzweig. Composition as an area of concentration at U of T was a new program, just in its second year. Weinzweig engineered Glick's transfer to the new course and he graduated with both a BA and an MA in composition.

During his student days, Glick had attended the summer music program at Aspen, Colo. in 1956 and 1957 where Darius Milhaud, the great composer was in residence. When he graduated U of T in 1959, Glick went to Paris for further studies with Milhaud. He also took classes with Louis Sageur and Max Deutch.

In Paris, Glick also went through a musical crisis. He suffered ideological angst over the seeming irreconcilable disparity between the two early musical influences in his life — Jewish music and the Western classical tradition.

"I didn't know where to turn. Were they separate? What was Jewish music? What kind of composer should I be? Could counterpoint, harmony and orchestration work with the emotional music that lay within my Jewish psyche? Could I find a way to make Western music powerful in the Jewish way of my father? It was a constant concern for me."

In 1961 in Paris, Glick composed two works that became prototypes of this on-going musical dichotomy. His *Suite Hebraique No. 1* was an overtly Jewish piece while his *Sinfonia Concertante for String Quartet* was a searing, searching, driving, dissonant embodiment of the current fashion of Western contemporary composition.

For several years, while Glick worked out his personal musical style, these two threads remained, for the most part, separate.

Glick returned to Canada and his first job was as music director at Camp Manitouwabing. In 1962, he joined the CBC as well as teaching at the Conservatory and the Brodie School of Music. *Elegy For Orchestra*, Glick's first Canadian commission, was performed in 1964 by the East York Orchestra with Milton Barnes conducting.

The '60s were a time of tortuous creativity as Glick came to grips with his opposing musical forces. In time, as he left atonality behind him, a synthesis occurred which became Glick's trademark — Western music influenced by the Jewish spirit.

"Today, everything I write has this stamp. Within the classical music structure, I'm conscious of nusach, the motifs that represent feeling in prayer and the Yiddish/Chassidic traditions that developed out of Hebrew prayer.

"My talent has proven itself, my ability to work has proven itself. Forty years later, my desire to compose has not diminished!"

Ottawa poet Aaron plans to visit Toronto

LOS ANGELES —

Ottawa native Rafi (Jeffrey) Aaron recently completed a 45-day poetry reading tour of the United States, and will present four readings in Canada in late January and early February.

Aaron's poetry readings in Canada are scheduled to begin on Jan. 28, at Toronto's York University and continue in Montreal in early February. Aaron's reading tour which included New York City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, and Portland, coincides with the recent publication of his book, *The Lost And Found*.

Aaron was recognized this year for his poetry in both Canada and Israel where he resides. His poem, In This Amphitheater, was selected for publication by the Canadian League of Poets, Canada's largest poetry competition.

Aaron's poems have appeared in Anglo-Israeli literary journals, the Jerusalem Post and in Hebrew translation. The Israeli public has also had the opportunity to hear them read by the poet to the guitar accompaniment of blues musician Eli Marcus, formerly of Toronto.

Rafi Aaron

Aaron was born in 1959 in Ottawa. He attended Fisher Park High School and received his BA from York University. He moved to Israel in 1982 and began writing full time in 1989.

Prior to that, Aaron worked in the field of public relations and advertising. His public relations projects included the World Conference of Twin Cities, and the feature event of Israel's 40th anniversary celebrations, the first-ever symphony at Masada.

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Travel

Paris magnificent despite changes

By
SHEILA DROPKIN

PARIS —

Gay Paree ain't what she used to be. You've got to watch carefully where you walk in the streets to avoid the dog droppings. The streets lining the Champs Elysee and surrounding the Eiffel Tower are lined with peddlers (mostly African immigrants) selling everything from knock-off watches to genuine imitation leather purses to junk jewelry. And the people are friendly!

To be fair, much of what made Paris, Paris — the monuments, the wonderful fashion houses and the great restaurants are still there. The old opera house, L'Opera, one of the largest theatres in the world, is still magnificent and draws as many tourists to gape at its magnificence as it draws audiences for its presentations.

By contrast, the new Opera Bastille is reportedly a dud, damned as much for its architectural style as for its poor sound qualities.

The Left Bank remains a somewhat Bohemian area and its two most famous cafes, Les Deux Magots and Cafe de Flore in the Saint Germain quarter attract as many locals as visitors.

Ile St. Louis and the Latin Quarter are still home to many of France's artists, bookstores, cafes and France's leading university, Le Sorbonne.

There are more than 250,000 Jews living in Greater Paris and in the Quartier Historique du Marais, kosher butcher shops and take-out stores are cheek by jowl with Vietnamese and other ethnic food shops.

The "Jewish Quarter," (4th and 5th arrondissements) houses a number of Jewish-style and Middle Eastern restaurants, including Le Roi du Felafel and Jo Goldenberg, as well as Israel's, a gourmet Jewish food store.

While anti-Semitism has been growing throughout France, the Jewish community in Paris is active in local and Israeli affairs and the many synagogues enjoy full attendance. To be sure, security is strict at all Jewish events and the synagogues are patrolled by private security police.

But support for Israel remains strong and such organizations as Israel Bonds, Jewish National Fund, Les Amis de l'Hopital Shaare Zedek and Les Amis of the various Israeli universities are all active.

The Louvre is enjoying a renaissance of sorts, with its new entry plaza and theatre and wonderful permanent collections. The Mona Lisa still attracts most visitors to the city, but even local residents keep returning for yet another look at the lady with the enigmatic smile.

But the new star on the city's horizon, artistically speaking, is the Musee d'Orsay. Built in what was formerly a railway station and hotel, la Gare d'Orsay, the museum officially opened in 1986, 13 years after the idea for its construction was first broached.

The architects and designers had a dual responsibility — to respect and restore the station's original beauty and to incorporate an art museum that works for both the art and the visitor.

The principal former structures of the station are still visible and still flow between the walls and screens of the museum. The glass roofings and windows, which very closely resemble the original glass, constantly provide the visitor with a degree of overhead transparency into the box girders and skylights of the structure and a degree of natural light.

Hard ochre Buxy limestone is used throughout, to give the entire structure a sense of continuity, despite the diversity of the various rooms and display areas.

With more than 17,000 square metres of display space, the museum provides its paintings, sculpture and photography exhibits and its visitors with breathing space.

The works are limited to a very precise timeframe — 1848-1912 and present a prodigious and extraordinary complex artistic heritage. No artistic disciplines are omitted — even books and film are included — and the various aspects are not separated or isolated.

One moment you may be viewing a painting and the next your eye may travel to a sculpture or other object. The History of Architecture exhibit, including The Opera, The Eiffel Tower and the Orsay Museum itself can hold the viewer for over an hour, so intricate and detailed are its aspects.

The works are generally presented in a chronological order and most of the collection is on permanent exhibit. There are also periodic visiting exhibits and special events for children five-15 years of age.

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Curated by Ottawa native

Museum exhibit looks at Jewish life in Florida

By
GIL KEZWER

MIAMI —

Florida. The very word evokes images of orange groves, space ships and Disney-esque theme parks, real estate booms and busts, and a veritable promised land where old Jews go to bask in the sun in their golden years.

Those cliches form the core of Mosaic: Jewish Life in Florida, a fascinating temporary exhibit — five years in the making — currently travelling through museums across the state before going on display at Beth Hatefutsoth in Tel Aviv in 1993.

Curated by Prof. Henry Green, an Ottawa native who has headed the Judaic Studies program at the University of Miami since 1984, the exhibit opened at Miami's Historical Museum of South Florida last fall.

On display are some 400 photographs and 100 artifacts, almost without exception lent from private collections and never before exhibited.

Jewish pioneers first came to the palmetto frontier following the 1763 Treaty of Paris ending the French and Indian War, under the terms of which Spain ceded its colony to Great Britain.

Today it is estimated 700,000 Jews call Florida home. Over 90 per cent of them live in the 150-km megalopolis which sprawls from Miami to Palm Beach. And tens of thousands of snowbirds migrate south to their winter nesting grounds from Toronto, Montreal and other northern climes.

Mosaic is an apt title since the exhibit documents a diverse ethnic community struggling to maintain its identity in the American melting pot.

One of the early figures portrayed is David Levy Yulee (1810-1886), the son of a Moroccan-born West Indies lumber baron, who shortened his name to Yulee and became one of the state's leading political figures from 1836 until after the Civil War.

The town of Yulee near Jacksonville is named after him. Contrary to legend, Yulee — who was the first Jew to serve in the U.S. Senate — never apostasized. His children were, however, brought up as Christians.

Faced alienation among elderly

Another prominent 19th century figure immortalized by geography is Col. Abraham C. Myers, after whom the Gulf Coast city of Fort Myers is named. Myers was a U.S. Army quartermaster in the genocidal campaigns against the Seminole Indians of 1836-1838 and 1841-1842.

The exhibit discusses Florida Jewry's varied components — Ashkenazim and Sephardim, northerners and natives, Spanish-speaking refugees from Castro's Cuba and NASA engineers, young and old, nouveaux riches and poor.

Until late in the 19th century, the state — like the South, was remarkably tolerant to Jews. Anti-Semitism, with its restrictive covenants and other ugly manifestations, was a Yankee import.

Aside from the threat of assimilation, another problem Florida Jewry has faced is alienation among the elderly. Many Yiddish-speaking fixed-income pensioners who searched for a place of peace and warmth in their sunset years have found only poverty and displacement.

One particularly poignant photograph is captioned: "How many memories can be packed into a suitcase? How much of a lifetime will fit on the top of a dresser?"

Green is hopeful that when the exhibits returns from Israel in 1993, it will serve as the nucleus of a state museum for Florida Jewry. One possible venue, he said, is the Beth Jacob Congregation in Miami Beach's Art Deco district. The building was declared a U.S. national historic landmark several years ago.

Mosaic will be at the Sarasota Art Association to March 3. It moves to the Museum of Science and History, Jacksonville, March 17 to May 31; to the T.T. Wentworth Museum, Pensacola, June 16 to Sept. 29; and to the Orange County Historical Museum, Orlando, Oct. 10 to Jan. 20. The exhibit schedule for 1992 includes Palm Beach, Tallahassee and Fort Lauderdale.

William Schemer from Pusalotes, Lithuania, as a peddler in Jacksonville, Fla. Circa 1906.

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Business Outlook

New column will offer readers hints on facilitating job search

Career Stakeout

By CHARLES WAGNER

This is the first of a new series which will appear once a month.

There is no post-secondary institution that is perfect for every student.

For many people, the opportunity to study at university is without question the best option. However, for those who have need of a quicker and more practical training route, community and private colleges are the better option.

Studying at university can be prestigious and an educationally enriching experience. However, it is not an open ticket to a profession.

Only a small portion of those who attend university go on to graduate at professional faculties and establish livelihoods on the basis of their training at university.

Many students with only university undergraduate degrees find that while they benefited from studying anthropology, psychology or political science, completion of their studies do not provide marketable skills that translate into jobs.

There are those students who benefit from a different focus. Their prime goal is not to obtain an education, but to obtain a livelihood.

University may not be their best route. One does not need a university degree in psychology to operate a word processor or become a draughtsman, nor does one require a degree in English to be a legal secretary.

For some high school graduates and mature students, there is a viable and respectable alternative to university, that being community and private colleges. These colleges are registered with the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. Students who attend these courses, if eligible, may receive financial assistance from the government.

While university studies generally concentrate on the abstract and theory related to the subject matter, colleges tend to combine theory with its practical application.

Different colleges offer vocational studies ranging from dental hygiene to office support and computers. As a rule, the practical approach appeals to students who would rather start working as soon as possible.

The lost opportunity costs of going to university as opposed to a college can be monumental.

For example, a lawyer has spent a minimum of five years at university, one year apprenticing and six months taking the bar admission course. Compare this with the legal secretary or word processor who has taken a 17-week program and immediately joined the work force.

The cost in lost income may very well be more than $100,000. For those who will actually be accepted into a professional university faculty, who enjoy the lifestyle, prestige and income potential of that profession, the lost opportunity costs are irrelevant.

But, for others who neither have the desire to spend so much time in school or at work nor have the intent to engage in that profession upon graduation, then the expense may be relevant.

Having gone through, benefited and enjoyed the university system and being involved with a college, I see the pluses and minuses of both systems. It would be a mistake for students to ignore either option.

Because of the current economic situation, graduates of high school and university are not the only ones looking for employment. Many people in their 30s, 40s, and 50s find themselves in need of retraining and relocating.

It is my hope that this column will allow readers access to information that will help them in their employment search.

* * *

Charles Wagner is a lawyer and the associate dean of Success Business College in Toronto.

Soviets will import Israeli medical system

TEL AVIV (JTA) —

The Soviet Union will import a sophisticated emergency medical system developed by Magen David Adom, Israel's equivalent of the Red Cross.

The system will serve the estimated 125,000 foreign residents and senior government officials in Moscow. The system, known as Keshev, was recently introduced by the Red Magen David's paramedical service in Ramat Gan, a suburb of Tel Aviv.

The decision to establish such a service for the Moscow elite was reached late last month by Valeri Bikov, the minister of medical and microbiological industries, who headed a Soviet medical mission that at the time was visiting Israel.

The system includes a Keshev emergency beeper to summon police, firefighters and ambulance services, and an electrocardiogram that transmits at any distance over telephone lines. The EKG is reserved for paying members of the paramedic service, not the average citizen.

The Soviet delegation visited Keshev headquarters and was shown how the sensors attached to the patient's chest send data over the phone lines. The printout can be read instantaneously by a cardiologist at the other end of the line.

The delegates, guests of the Israel Chamber of Commerce, were preparing a $20 million (U.S.) list of medical equipment and pharmaceuticals they intend to purchase in Israel.

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Bronfman's Osem purchase called good for firm, Israel

By
WENDY ROSEN

TORONTO —

Charles Bronfman's Israeli-based investment company has acquired 33 per cent of one of that nation's largest food manufacturers.

Claridge Israel president Jonathan Kolber, who was reached by telephone at the parent company's Montreal headquarters, said his company purchased the shares of Osem Ltd. from two of the firm's founding families on Jan. 8 for $26 million (U.S.).

Kolber called the deal good for Claridge Israel and Israel.

"It's wonderful for us ... it makes our portfolio more diversified," he said, adding that Claridge Israel now has investments in basic industries including those involved in publishing, environment and pharmaceuticals.

As for Israel, he said given the timing with the Persian Gulf situation "it's a bit of a shot in the arm in terms of confidence."

Kolber added that though there is no humanitarian aspect to this business deal, just by investing in Israel and bringing in foreign expertise a company contributes to the environment.

"It will help create jobs and help strengthen both companies."

Kolber said it was reported in the Israeli press that that two families were selling for personal reasons. An Israeli law firm was the liaison between the privately-owned company and potential suitors, whose identities were not divulged to Osem shareholders. These people retained the right of first refusal.

Information limited

As Claridge Israel worked through a third party, certain particulars were not as available to them as they would have been had the company invited them to invest.

"That's a risk you take because the information is limited — it's also why there is less competition. Sometimes it's hard to know enough to feel comfortable."

Kolber voiced his surprise that analysts were taken aback by Claridge Israel's purchase. In 1989 Claridge Israel sold its 38-per-cent stake in Supersol, one of the country's leading supermarket chains. Its holdings are concentrated in high-technology, export-oriented companies.

"We got out of retailing in '89, not just food. We felt retailing had its limitations."

Kolber said Osem, which manufactures a full range of products including pasta, soup and snacks, was attractive because of its management. Through Bronfman's Zionist involvement in Israel, he and his associates had become acquainted with the Propers, the family that owns 17.4 per cent of Osem and that manages it.

Kolber said that the growing domestic market — 200,000 Soviet Jews alone in 1990 and double that expected this year — will mean that any basic industry will do well.

Another factor is export potential, especially in light of the fact that by 1993 Israel will be in a unique position to access two of the world's largest markets. Israel currently has a free trade pact with the United States (which now is attempting to negotiate a trilateral deal with Canada and Mexico). In two years, Israel enters the European Community.

Currently Osem has annual sales of about $200 million (U.S.), of which only about 10 per cent is derived from exports.

Growth potential

At the Dec. 31 board of directors meeting at which Claridge Israel's intent to purchase the shares was divulged, Osem announced the creation of a new company, Osem International, to be headed by Gad Proper, brother of the parent company's president Dan Proper.

Kolber added that the percentage of exports is small but that it is going to grow. Osem has either signed or is in the process of signing agreements in the U.S., England and Eastern Europe.

Asked whether this move to boost its international market had anything to do with Claridge Israel's purchase, Kolber responded, "Probably, but it wasn't our doing. We didn't initiate it."

Claridge Israel's other investments include: Optrotech, a manufacturer of automated inspection and design systems; ECI Telecom, a telecommunications company; Luz Industries, a solar energy company, and Teva Pharmaceutical Industries.

Kolber also put to rest the notion Claridge wanted to manage Osem.

"We don't want to manage ... we want to invest and share that burden — it's healthier for both companies."

This acquisition brings Claridge Israel's holdings to $125 million (U.S.). Kolber stressed that there are no plans to expand these holdings.

"We will not be looking for future investments for at least a year. We have a huge amount of investment management work cut out for us for the next year or so."

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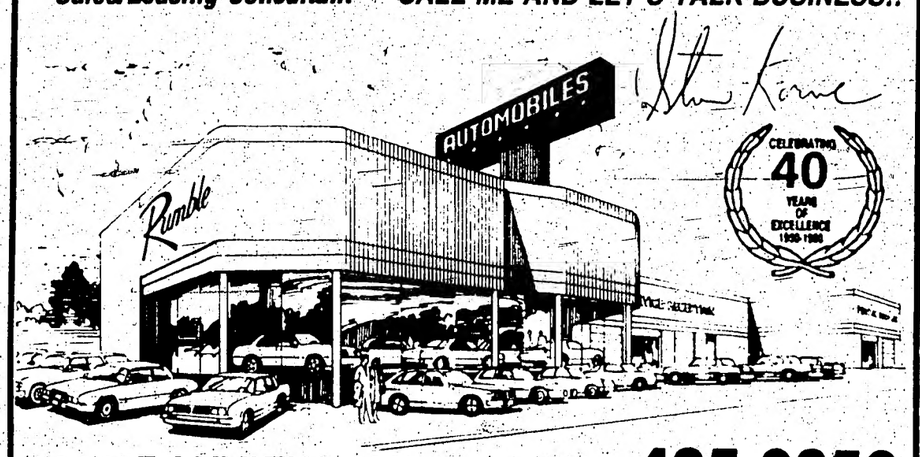

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FINE HOMES

LOWER VILLAGE
$859,000. East of Spadina. Main flr. den + family rm., renovated kitchen, 4 bdrms., central air/vac., dble. gar. **Don Wagman.

FOREST HILL GEM
$949,000. Fabulous 5 bedroom residence. Decorated beautifully. Central air. 190' deep south lot. Priced to sell! *Linda Rose.

UPPER FOREST HILL
$679,000. Georgian 4 bedrooms, 4 baths (master ensuite), centre hall. Main flr. den, powder rm., solarium. CAC. **Don Wagman.

CORTLEIGH BLVD.
$1,050,000. Exceptional Lytton Park. Renovated to perfection! 6 bedrooms, master ensuite, family rm. o/l ravine. *Linda Rose.

LYTTON PARK
$995,000. Stunning renovation. 3 storey, 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, family room. Central air. Pool. Dble. gar. *Betty Cohen.

LAWRENCE PARK
$449,000. Great location for professionals. Updated centre hall, 4 bdrms. + den, "White" kitchen, fin. l-level. *Paul Goldenberg.

LAWRENCE/AVENUE RD.
$429,000. Lovely Cape Cod home. Family room with walk-out. Central air. Private drive. Outstanding lot. Call *Linda Rose.

CONDO. ALTERNATIVE
NOW $179,000. Lawrence/Avenue Rd. Charming art deco bungalow. Renovated kitchen & bath. 2 car garage. Great location. **Gary Mitchell.

CEDARVALE
$549,000. Beautiful renovation. "Snaidero" kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 3 new baths, lower level family rm. Att. garage. **Don Wagman.

CEDARVALE
$399,000. Delightful 2-storey, 4 bedrooms, "White" kitchen, finished lower level. Many extras. Walk to subway. *Jack Solomon.

DAVISVILLE/YONGE
$489,000. Wonderful 3-storey, 4 bedrooms, family rm. & powder rm. on main floor. Walk-out to deep garden. Call *Gayle Mitchell.

ST. CLAIR/BATHURST
$299,000. Detached 2-storey, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, sunroom, renovated kitchen. Detached garage. Deep lot. Call *Shirley Fine.

ARMOUR HEIGHTS
$339,000. Spacious 2-storey, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, "White" kitchen. Finished lower level. Private drive. CAC. *Ruth Halperin.

AVENUE RD./WILSON
NOW $289,000. Fabulous 2 bdrm. bungalow, "Poggenpohl" kitchen, finished lower level. Updated throughout. Just move-in. *Florence Pancer.

BAYVIEW/SHEPPARD
$369,000. Updated 3 bedrooms, master ensuite, walk-outs from kitchen & family rm. Double garage. Walk to TTC. *Eleanor Stanton.

DON MILLS/FINCH
$289,900. Estate Sale. Spacious 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, great kitchen + walk-out, finished lower level. Call *Morris Simon.

YORK MILLS/LESLIE
$699,000. Beautiful 5 bdrms., marble ensuite, main floor family rm. & library, Laurentide kitchen. Central air. Pool. *Debbi Slater.

YORK MILLS/BANBURY
$589,000. Superb 3+ bdrm., 3 bath bungalow. Totally renovated. Hollywood kitchen, family rm. Central air. att. garage. *Arthur Caplan.

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BATHURST CLARK — HERE'S A SURPRISE!
3 bdrm., ensuite, fin. bsmnt., $229,900. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — YOUNG LOVER'S SPECIAL
3 bdrm., ravine garden, fin bsmnt., appls., $219,900. Bella Beer, 731-7111.

BATHURST-ANTIBES — 3 BD. TOWNHOUSE
Move-in cond., fin. bsmnt., immaculate! Steve Fisher, 731-7111.

BATHURST-STEELES — REDUCED TO SELL!
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BATHURST-CENTRE — LUXURY GREENPARK!
5 bdrm., fam. rm., den, 9¾% mtge., quiet court, Bella Beer, 731-7111.

BATHURST MANOR — EASY TO ENJOY!
3 bdrm. bung., fin. bsmnt. apt., premium lot. Ted Waxman, 731-7111.

BATHURST-EGLINTON — 3 BD. BUNGALOW
On 39' x 140' lot, leaded glass, 2 stone firepl., wood trim throughout, in-law bsmnt. apt. Vendor financing. Marilyn Ray, 731-7111.

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Spectacular! Perfect for entertaining! Huge foyer, 85 pot lights, 2 marble frpl's, w/o from master, greenhouse kit, 6 baths. Marlon or Clara Green 764-7200.

JUST LISTED BATHURST-CLARK $349,900
4+1 bdrms, 4 baths, prof finished bsmt, fam rm + firepl, totally upgraded throuhgout. Larry Wronzberg 764-7200.

BATHURST-CLARK OVER 2,400 SQ. FT.
4 bdrms, 3 baths, huge hollywood kit, w/o family rm, ceramics throughout, totally upgraded. Marlon Green 764-7200.

RAVINE! 4-5 BEDROOM SEMI "LESLIE-CUMMER"
Suit 2 families or 1 lge family, 4 entrances, 5 exits. Helen Winer. 764-7200.

WILSON HTS. "WALK TO SUBWAY"
3 bdrm bungalow, sep bsmt entrance. Helen Winer 764-7200.

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$279,000. "Rosewood" Bathurst-Clark, 3 & 4 bdrms, brand new, approx 2,400 sq. ft, loaded Andrea Halpern 764-7200.

BATHURST-STEELES VALUE PRICED $229,900
3 bdrm, fin bsmt, many extras, starter home. Al Sidofsky 764-7200.

BATHURST-SHEPPARD BEAUTY $199,900
3 bdrm, 3 baths, huge fam rm, firepl, separate side entry to bsmt, fin rec rm + wet bar, jacuzzi. Pearly Dennis 764-7200.

CONDOS

CONSERVATORY — 3 BALCONIES "1,600 SQ. FT."
Huge corner, priced to sell, show like model. Berta Kogan 764-7200.

BATHURST-FINCH "HEMISPHERES" LARGEST CORNER
Approx. 1,600 sq. ft, park view, 2 bdrm + den, bargain. B. Kogan 764-7200.

WOW! 1,600' OF FABULOUS VALUE ONLY $269,900
Mod 2 bdrm, 2 baths, white kit, solarium + balcony, tandem parking, locker at "Conservatory" Ellie Parker 764-7200.

BATHURST-STEELES END UNIT UPGRADES
2 bdrms, w/i pantry, 2 parking, balcony. Pearly Dennis 764-7200.

FIRST HOME? RETIRING? PENTHOUSE $174,900
2 bdrm, marble entry, balcony, mod kit. Ellie Parker 764-7200.

LUXURY TRIDEL BLDG. "GIBRALTOR" 1ST AD!
$147,900. 1 bdrm + solarium, pkg, pretty, must sell! Ellie Parker 764-7200.

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The finest custom home offered for sale in years. This 5 bdrm. 6,000 sq. ft. gem offers the latest in ultra-modern grand principal rooms. A must see with Bill Greisman 488-4488.

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$2,650,000. A splendid property in exceptional surroundings. Unbelievable features. Secluded with tennis court + pool. E. Kalles 488-4488.

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Grand 2 storey, finished bsmt, can't be reproduced at this price. Toby Saltzman 441-2888.

BATHURST/CLARK — REDUCED!
Gorgeous 4 bdrm. home, 2,800 sq. ft., all luxury upgrades, prime location, now only $369,900. Tobi Smith 488-4488.

ARMOUR HEIGHTS 1ST AD $329,000
Impeccable, 3 bdrm. 2 baths, large kitchen, finished bsmt. with nanny's rm. W/o to gorgeous deck & secluded garden. Marilyn Feldman 441-2888.

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Totally rebuilt home on 200' lot! Fantastic kit. & family rm. 3 bdrms. + nanny's qtrs. 2 frplcs. Pickled oak floors. Jeffrey Wagman 488-2875.

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One-of-a-kind! Large master with sitting room. Tremendous attention to detail! Cathy Kwinter 488-2875.

NEW! 45' BLDR'S OWN LUX. HOME!
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42 SHELBOURNE — EAST BATHURST
Choice 50' lot! Enjoy 3 bedroom bungalow, ensuite, or build 4,000 sq. ft. new home. Judy Goldman 488-2875.

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Updated 2 stry. Victorian, 4 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 kit. & garage. Try an offer, must sell! Rena Bader 226-1987.

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110 BLOOR ST. W. 2,550 SQ. FT.!!!
Luxury throughout. Custom appointments. Picturesque north view. $300 per sq. ft.! Exceptional value for this prestigious location. Call me now David Wagman 488-2875.

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- Reduced to sell - Mortimer & Pape - 2 units - $182,900
- Birchmount-Danforth - 4-plex - $309,000 Commercial potential on main street
- Queen-Lansdowne. 3 family home, excellent condition. Just reduced! $229,000
- McCowan-Eglinton 3 bdrm bungal, in-law apt. Reduced to sell immediately. $189,900.
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- Jane-Lawrence, $169,000. Semi, 2 stry, 2 units.

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Traditional 2 storey home in highly desirable area. Newly renovated kitchen and bathroom. For sale at $499,000; Rent $1,700/mo.

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Centrally located "Homes & Gardens" restoration. Main Floor Family Rm. & powder Rm. Drastically reduced to $499,000.

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Charming 3 bdrm, totally renovated home; 3 baths incl. fabulous master ensuite. Walkout from lower level. Just reduced to $579,000.

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$279,888 Fieldgate 3 bdrm, immaculate, main flr. fam. rm., basement fin., double garage, 90-day possess. Walk to patio. Quiet dead end street. Joan E. Landy 222-9707.

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Choice of 3 homes from $255,000, 3 bdrm, fin. bsmt, priv. dr. - $259,000; 1½ storey, 3 bdrm + fin bsmt, $269,000; 1½ storey new kit - $495,000; 4 bdrm new home, main flr. fam. rm. - Lot 50x125 - Call for details D. Abraham 783-3333.

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Glencairn Subway - 360 Ridelle, 1 bdrm view pool, sauna, $135,000. 2 bdrm. + 3 pc. enst. - $169,000; 3 bdrm. corner, 2-4 pc. + laund. enst., Shabat elev., pool, sauna, sundeck. Call for details on these & more. D. Abraham 783-3333.

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4 bdrm. sp[SOLD]o date kit., built-in app[SOLD]bath., dbl. gar.

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Custom built 4 bdrm., den, fam. rm. Large kit., built in appl., dbl. gar. Ravine lot. Many extras.

YORK DOWNS-BATHURST
New quality built 4 bdrm., den, fam. rm. Huge liv. & din. W/o bsmnt. Dbl. gar. Extras.

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1 Houses For Sale

BATHURST-SHEPPARD
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- 2 Brand new units at 5th & 12th fl 1,260 sf appr. 2 Br 2 Bath w/den upgraded brdlm & neutral decor.

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- 2 Brand new units at 11th & 15th fl 1,500 sf plus 2 Br 2 Bath SE Expo $$ Upgrades.
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Motivated vendor. Rental units also available for Primrose & Royal Promenade Condo. Pls Call.

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CARIBOU RD.
Lg. 4 bdrm bungalow, 70' lot, dble. automatic garage, fin. bsmnt. Asking $659,000. Classis Real Estate Limited, H. Fruitman, 256-1144.

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Luxurious Thornhill
3,300s.f. 4 bedroom home in high demand area. This home offers everything your family needs including exeptional foyer and kitchen. Professionally decorated and landscaped. Many luxury upgrades. Walk to synagogue and Promenade. Call for details. No agents. 731-8627. 3502

Reduced $50,000 until end of January before being listed. Palm Drive, exclusive cul-de-sac, 4 bedroom backsplit, 4 bathrooms, 30' family room with fireplace, dream kitchen, main floor laundry, finished basement. 633-9934. 3294

Thornhill. Bathurst/ Atkinson. Court/ ravine. 3000 s.f. 4 bedrooms. Magnificent kitchen/ breakfast with walk-out. Huge deck. Nanny's quarters. $399,900. 881-6499. No Shabbos calls. 3476

3 Houses For Rent

DON MILLS-STEELES
Exec 4 bd., $1,700. Andy Reti, Ungerman Rlty. 731-7111.

6 Condominiums For Sale

Private Sale
3000 Bathurst Street. One bedroom and sunroom, eat-in kitchen, insuite laundry. Reduced to $187,000. Make an offer. 782-4307. 3415

Conservatory, 333 and 343 Clark. Thornhill. **Lowest price units** now available. 752-2282, 764-3869. 3512

Village Terraces. Forest Hill. 2 bedroom. Balcony. Clear ravine view. 5 appliances. 24 hour security. Motivated vendor. $299,000. 482-5162. 3416

7 Condominiums For Rent

Bathurst/Sheppard - Luxurious 3 bedroom condo. Call evenings, 638-4041. 3461

Bathurst/Wilson - 1 bedroom, equipped, air-conditioning, hardwood floors. Parking. Across from Baycrest Hospital. 636-3845. 3507

Skymark/Zenith - Luxury 2 bedroom, solarium, den. Sports facilities. Parking. Available March 1. 499-0900. 3371

Bathurst-Promenade. 2 bd., balc., $1,085. Paula Bernstein, Ungerman Rlty., 731-7111.

8 Condominiums For Rentale

3000 Bathurst. 1 bedroom + den. 8th floor. 886-5302. 3388

10 Accommodation Available

Bayview/York Mills - Female for room in townhouse. Furnished. Kitchen. Non-smoker. Evenings, 449-9829. 3454

Bathurst/Steeles - Gentlemen wanted for 2 rooms. 1 furnished, 1 unfurnished, plus garage. 881-2761. 3441

Bathurst/Eglinton - Large, bright furnished room. Bath, fridge, hotplate. Quiet home. Non-smoker. Subway. 782-4684. 3511

11 Accommodation Wanted

Wanted: To share apartment with you! Female, non-smoker preferred. 25-35 years. North York area. 787-8668, evenings 3506

12 Shared Accommodation

Bathurst/Eglinton - Non-smoker to share apartment from January 20-March 31. Fully furnished. Luxury 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom. 864-9517. 3408

6 Condominiums For Sale

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- **333/343 CLARK.** Several lux. units from $199,900 - $379,000. Bella Beer, 731-7111.

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Bathurst/Lawrence - Large furnished 2 bedroom apartment. Great location. Female to share with same. TTC. Laundry. Parking. Available immediately. 785-4434, please leave message. 3498

12 Shared Accommodation

Rosebury Square. Female to share 3 bedroom apartment. Call 785-7353. 3508

Yonge/Bloor. (Manulife). Room to rent. Includes air, heat, Hydro-Rec facilities- Subway. References. Sub-lease. $648. Box 9894 CJN. 3406

Female non-smoker to share house with a med student. $475 plus utilities. Bathurst and Eglinton. Steps to subway. 785-7842, leave a message. 3457

Avenue Rd./Eglinton - Female to share duplex. Non-smoker. Laundry. February 1. $520. 488-628[illegible]3

13 Apartments For Rent

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23 Florida Property For Rent

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24 Florida Property For Sale

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46 Employment Opportunities

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24 Florida Property For Sale

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27 Israel Properties

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30 Office Space

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38 Announcements

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39 Social Announcements

Charles Levy and Louise Levy are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter Stacey Lynn to Jason Michael, son of Robert and Gloria Cloth. Proud grandfather is Harry Henig. Wedding to take place in June 1992. 3464

46 Employment Opportunities

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Superb Orthodox Dayschool seeks religious teachers to teach Hebrew/Judaic studies. Send resume to M. Stolovitsky, Principal, Akiva Academy, 140 Haddon Rd. S.W., Calgary, T2V 2Y3. 3347

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52 Personals

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54 Personal Companions

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I've seen the bright lights of New York, the Northern Lights of Alaska and even the stadium lights of the Skydome. Bright, warm, electric professional woman, 30, looking for the light of her life with someone who shines and who is not burned out. If I've sparked some interest, **watt** are you waiting for. Box 9915 CJN. 3458

I, like maybe yourself, has not found the right person yet. I appreciate qualities such as honesty, affection, romance and an attractive woman who takes care of herself. Who enjoys sports, travelling and good conversation. I'm an attractive, 33 year old, slim, dark haired, blue eyed successful man, who seeks a woman, 19-34, with similar qualities. Box 9857 CJN. 3474

Hi! If you want to be treated like a woman deserves to be treated, then you'll have no second thoughts about meeting me. I'm a professional entertainer who loves life, enjoys many activities, and loves romantic adventure. I'm 37, non-smoker, legally separated with one child and would love the chance to shower you with poetry and electricity. I'm not you're typical male so try me, it could be you're lucky day. I would appreciate a photo, but not necessary. Box 9909 CJN. 3396

Uncommon SJM, 29, 6'1", slim and good looking for a special lady, who loves life and doesn't smoke. Please send a recent photo and phone number. Box 9913 CJN. 3426

Attractive male 30, affectionate and fun loving, with a great sense of humour, and enjoys living life to the fullest when possible including sports, working out, movies, theatre, music, dancing and being creative. Would like to meet an attractive down to earth special lady 25-32, who is sensitive, affectionate, caring, honest and enjoys lots of T.L.C. and a good time. Non-smoker. So don't be shy and let's do it. Please write me and send a recent photo with phone number only to 800 Steeles Ave. West, Suite B-10-143, Thornhill, Ontario, L4J 7L2. 3446

Good-looking male, 24, non-religious with a serious sense of humour seeks like-minded female in her early 20's. Box 9872 CJN. 3345

Our attractive, Jewish, financially secure, 40's mom, is relocating from Montreal. If you're honest, financially secure and enjoy dining out, have we got a woman for you. Box 9907 CJN. 3380

54 Personal Companions

Male, 26, engineering technology student, 5'9", slim, trim and medium built, interested in meeting attractive, intelligent girl 18-26, 5'3" plus. For wintertime fun and friendship. I am sometimes possessed by an uncontrollable urge to make people laugh. Box 9906 CJN. 3375

Good catch. Good-looking, young, succesfull easy-going man. Sincere and caring, seeks relationship with girl 20-32. Enjoys romantic dinners, dancing, sports etc. Please send photo and phone number. Box 9920 CJN. 3475

I am intelligent, fun and caring. Would like to meet a man with similar qualities who is late 30's to early 40's. I am 36, 5'2", athletic, trim and attractive. I am divorced, with a one year old daughter, and we come as a package. Please respond with phone number. Photo not essential. Box 9910 CJN. 3397

Welcome to the Dating Game! We are two attractive and outgoing bachelorettes, 23 years of age, still searching for our one perfect bachelor... So, if you are a bachelor, 24-28, why don't you join in on the fun, and choose the bachelorette who is most suited for you.
Howdy, I'm bachelorette #1. I'm 5'4", with chestnut brown hair, brown eyes and a winning smile. I love a man with good romantic taste, and the urge to travel. I'm as bubbly as the champagne that I drink. So what do you think???
Hi there, I'm bachelorette #2, I'm 5'2", with auburn hair, hazel eyes and an active social flair that just won't quit. I admire a spontaneous man who loves sports and can turn a baseball game into a romantic evening all in one. So, if you are a sweet gentleman with a unique sense of humour, I'm looking for you!
Please specify which bachelorette you would like to meet. Recent photo would be appreciated. Box 9917 CJN. 3462

Professional male, 28, lev-tov and good sense of humour, traditional but not religious, aliyah oriented, and as comfortable on Bathurst/Eglinton as he is in the Bloor Street Annex. Hoping to meet petite woman with similar interests. Box 9918 CJN. 3467

Single, self-employed, honest, caring young man, 39, seeks nice warm-hearted girl, up to 34 years, to build life together. Box 9912 CJN. 3413

Very attractive, slim female, in late 20's, vivacious yet sensitive, independent yet feminine, various interests include: long walks, theatre, cooking, seeks gentleman 28-40, sense of humour a must. Box 9916 CJN

Male, 28, professional, tall, many interests including theatre, tennis and travel, wishes to meet that special lady for a sincere relationship. Box 9905 CJN. 3361

55 Obituaries

Yahrzeit will be observed for the late **Jacob Weber**, on Sunday, February 3, 1:00pm, at Bathurst Lawn Cemetery. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. 3412

Morris Silver on Dec 27/90, late of 725 Woburn Ave.
Goldie Rubenstein on Dec 27/90, late of 15 Canyon Ave. #402.
Freda Perlmutter on Dec 28/90, late of Baycrest Home For The Aged.
Roza Sokolowski on Dec 29/90, late of 11 Southborne Ave.
Simha Friedman on Dec 27/90, late of 35 Canyon Ave. #1908.
Sydney Denver on Dec 29/90, late of 47 Holmesdale Rd.
Louis Levine on Dec 31/90, late of 3000 Bathurst St. #811.
Wilfred Samer on Dec 29/90, late of 63 St. Clair Ave. W.
Clara Liebman on Jan 1/90, late of Lincoln Place Nursing Home.
William Ackerman on Dec 30/90, late of 65 Wynford Heights Cres. #1717.
Harry Denaburg on Jan 1/91, late of 695 Castlefield Ave.
Benie Hoffman on Jan 1/91, late of 4415 Bathurst St. #1109.
Anne Shapiro on Jan 2/91, late of 4415 Bathurst St. #1004.
Clara Zuckerman on Jan 3/91, late of 69 Clanton Park Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

55 Obituaries

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Belle White on Jan 3/91, late of Pinevilla Nursing Home.
Isaac Ritterband on Jan 3/91, late of 211 Haddington Ave.
Doris Lang on Jan 5/91, late of 400 Walmer Rd., East #1528.
Percy Melteen on Jan 3/91, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
Morris Zamikoff on Jan 3/91, late of 54 Stormont Ave.
Rita Weinstein on Jan 4/91, late of 17 Ridge Hill Dr.
Gerald Silvert on Jan 4/91, late of 35 Fountainhead Rd. #1711.
Celia Lakin on Jan 5/91, late of 21 Trafalgar Square.
Ben Ambrose on Jan 5/91, late of 4266 Bathurst St.
Edith Bach on Jan 6/91, late of 6010 Bathurst St.
Marjorie Neveroff on Jan 7/91, late of 1221 Simcoe St. N. #319.
Marilyn McLeod on Jan 7/91, late of 179 Simonston Blvd.
Bessie Levine on Jan 6/91, late of 3311 Bathurst St. #501.
William Collins on Jan 8/91, late of 20 Shallmar Blvd. #705.
Charles Caplan on Jan 6/91, late of 10 Torresdale Ave. #1008.
Ben Middlestadt on Jan 8/91, late of 10 Kenneth Ave. #603.
Leon Kushnir on Jan 7/91, late of 4001 Bayview Ave. #420.
Sylvia Groship on Jan 7/91, late of 65 Skymark Dr. #1407.
Ada Orvitz on Jan 9/91, late of 133 Torresdale Ave. #2301.
David Share on Jan 6/91, late of 77 Maitland Place #1219.
Jules Slater on Jan 7/91, late of 308 Wilmington Ave.
Nahum Qualer on Jan 10/91, late of 442 Glencairn Ave. 3453

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Baker, Anne on January 11, 1991, late of 3311 Bathurst St., #801.
Havas, George on January 13, 1991, late of 555 Sheppard Ave. W., #1105.
Klevitsky, Khana on January 9, 1991, late of 2045 Finch Ave. W.
Levy, Elias on January 9, 1991.
Lovas, Laszlo on January 7, 1991, late of 6 Finchhurst Drive.
Orzy, Elsie on January 9, 1991.
Segal, Morris on January 13, 1991, late of 51 Claxton Blvd.
Steinberg, Esther on January 10, 1991, late of 24 Viewmount Ave.
Streiman, Mark on January 7, 1991, late of 30 Nevada Ave.

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

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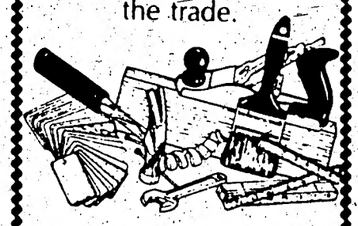

'Peg CJA campaign pledges on the rise

By MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG — Winnipeg's 1990-1991 Combined Jewish Appeal campaign is up 6 per cent in pledges over last year. The campaign has reached close to 7,000 contributors in a Jewish population of about 15,500. It reached 90-95 per cent of the population over 18.

"Even though our community like others is facing difficult economic times, people are still giving to the best of their ability," says Sheldon Zamick, the CJA's executive director. "We're getting tremendous coverage. We have a higher percentage of participation here than any other community. People here give more per capita than anywhere else."

The campaign may have been more successful this year because major contributors were approached earlier than usual. As well, some people were encouraged to give this year who missed the year before.

The Operation Exodus campaign was not as successful as expected. It may have been affected by competition from other local Jewish organizations raising money for the Soviet aliya.

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Village Shul stresses learning for children, parents

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
TORONTO —

At the Village Shul, children and parents alike have discovered that learning does not end at childhood.

The shul, located at Eglinton Ave. W., near Bathurst, (481-2383) was established over a year ago by a few families who had been studying at the Aish HaTorah learning centre.

"They felt it was time to put their growth into action and establish a unique shul, one that would be small, warm and family based; a place where everyone, regardless of background, affiliation or non-affiliation would feel comfortable," says Nancy Weisbrod, chairman of the shul's steering committee.

She says that although the shul follows Orthodox tradition, the vast majority of the members are not Orthodox. "But what they all have in common is the desire to learn, understand and grow," says Weisbrod.

In order to facilitate this learning, the shul offers a number of courses and programs for students of all ages including programs for children, day classes for women, evening classes for adults and events for the whole family including Friday night dinners and holiday celebrations.

Children's programs include the Sunday School for children ages three to five which teaches youngsters about the Jewish holidays, the weekly Torah portion and Israel, and the moms and kids playgroup for newborns to two-year-olds, held one morning a week.

Preceding each Jewish holiday lectures are held, discussing the relevancy of each holiday as well as laws and customs. Coming up this year are discussions about Purim, Passover, Shavuot and Tisha B'Av.

The women's independent study program is for those who would rather study independently than in a class environment. Women are matched with an experienced senior study partner for one-on-one learning at their own pace. Topics include the Jewish family, Kashrut, Sabbath, making holidays meaningful and Jewish philosophy.

Other classes have included The Delicate Balance, issues in Jewish parenting and family communication, and The Jewish Woman: traditions and myths.

At the Aish HaTorah Learning Centre at 296A Wilson Ave. (636-7530) adults are offered a variety of courses from the basics right up to advanced programs.

For the beginner, classes are held one night a week. The fall session included lectures on such subjects as the difference between men and women, loving and being loved, free will and the root of mistakes and speech thought and action.

Intermediate and advanced students also attend lectures one night a week on topics that have included an introduction to the Talmud, intermediate Gemara, in-depth Chumash and Meforshim and the ethical Jew.

Those living or working downtown may want to visit the Markham Street Shul at 397 Markham Street, where Aish HaTorah offers a number of lectures in conjunction with the shul. Fall lectures included The Inner Self: Identity and Esteem; Duality: The Soul and the Body; The Art of Happiness; and Friendship, Loving and Being Loved.

For information on future Markham Street shul lectures, or Aish HaTorah programs generally, call Rabbi Mitch Mandell at 636-7530.

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